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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1919.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE GERMAN ARMY.

HOW DEMOBILISATION IS PROCEEDING.

London, February 13.
Reuter learns that the demobilisation of the German Army is almost completed except for 100,000 men still in the East. A German Volunteer Army of 300,000, composed of good experienced soldiers, was being formed, but its discipline at present is very bad and recruiting is apathetic. Nothing like the full total has yet been raised. The Bolshevik troops in Petrograd and North-West Russia are still very unreliable. There are 25,000 Bolshevik troops on the North Front. The Siberian troops attack dashingly but unfortunately are incapable of a systematic offensive, and Bolshevik propaganda has caused disaffection. The Jews are intensely unpopular in Poland owing to their anti-national activities and support of the Germans and Bolsheviks, but the stories of pogroms are greatly exaggerated by Germans and anti-Polish Jews.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

PEACE CONFERENCE MEETING.

Paris, February 14.
A plenary sitting of the Peace Conference is to be held to-day to discuss the League of Nations.

MORE PROGRESS.

London, February 13.
A communique from Paris, dated the 13th inst., says after receiving the report of the Drafting Committee, which added several new articles, the League of Nations Commission proceeded to the second reading of the Draft, approving over a quarter thereof in final form.

The Allied Reparation Commission heard Mr. Dulles and Lord mner respectively explain the American and British viewpoints.

TRUE DEMOCRACY.

SOUND ADVICE TO TRADE UNIONISTS.

London, February 13.
In the House of Commons, Mr. J. H. Thomas, the railwaymen's leader, laid down the propositions, firstly, that the State was greater than the Trade Unions, and, secondly, that Trade Unionists must accept the verdict of the electors. He would never lead a strike against the considered judgement of the whole nation. He urged the working classes to recognise their own responsibility if a genuine attempt was made to redress their grievances and the employers displayed toleration. He was not apprehensive regarding the future, if that spirit prevails.

THE PEACE TREATY.

PARLIAMENT TO EXPRESS ITS OPINION.

London, February 13.
In his reply to the question whether Parliament would have power to alter the Peace Treaty, Mr. Bonar Law added that so far as Britain was concerned the Treaty would not be ratified until Parliament had expressed its opinion thereon. Mr. Bonar Law's reply indicated that the Treaty would have to be ratified or rejected en bloc.

TURKISH TYRANT COMMITS SUICIDE.

London, February 13.
A message from Constantinople, dated the 3rd inst., says Dr. Reshid Bey, former Vali of Diarbekir, who was implicated in the Armenian massacres and recently escaped custody, was finally discovered and surrounded by Turkish Police, whereupon he committed suicide.

OUR HEROES' GRAVES.

London, February 13.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Winston Churchill stated that a Committee was considering the question of enabling relatives to visit graves of soldiers in France and Flanders.

REPATRIATION OF ALIEN ENEMIES.

WHAT BRITAIN IS DOING.

London, February 13.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Shortt stated that the general repatriation of alien enemies in the United Kingdom was being carried out as far as shipping permitted. Over 6,000 had been repatriated since the Armistice, and 18,600 enemy civilians were at present interned in the United Kingdom.

AUSTRO-GERMAN VESSELS.

HOW THEY WILL BE USED.

Paris, February 13.
The Inter-Allied Maritime Transport Council has decided that Austro-German merchant vessels be chiefly employed in the repatriation of troops and in supplying food to different regions in Europe. The vessels, totalling 750,000 tons, are at present seaworthy.

THE RUMANIAN RISING.

London, February 13.
A further report from Vienna of a general rising in Rumania appears to be the same story as cabled on January 28. So far there is no confirmation elsewhere, consequently the source is suspected.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE MINERS' ATTITUDE

GOVERNMENT DATA NOT ACCEPTED.

London, February 14.
The Executive of the Miners' Federation, replying to the Government's proposals, does not accept the data upon which the offer is based and denies the statement that a thirty-per cent. increase in wages would prejudice economic life.
The reply emphasises the necessity of shorter hours and a higher standard of living, and the unanimity with which the Conference rejected the Government's proposals, saying the hopes and desires of the miners are pinned to a speedy realisation of their demands. Should a crisis arise, the miners disclaim all responsibility therefor.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE?

Paris, Feb. 13.
It is believed that the League of Nations Commission has made a great step towards agreement, as the Anglo-American delegates have decided to adopt the French proposal to create an International Army and Navy.

At the Allied Conference M. Bourgeois moved an amendment creating an international military force to enforce decisions of the League of Nations. This introduces a formidable question just when the Commission had completed its work and was considering a plenary session for final adoption of the League project. Several representatives maintained that the proposal if adopted would be unconstitutional in some countries.

A FRENCH PROPOSAL.

Later.
It is understood that M. Bourgeois urged that the international military force should be stationed in France as the strategic centre of Europe and the most immediately threatened nation.

A DENIAL.

London, Feb. 13.
Reuter learns that there is no truth in the Paris statement that the British and American delegates agreed to the creation of an International Army and Navy.

ADMIRAL JELlicoe's REVELATIONS.

London, Feb. 13.
Lord Jellicoe's book on the 'Grand Fleet' has been published. It describes the work of the fleet for the first 20 years of war and dwells on the dangers to which a fleet short of cruisers and destroyers, with defenceless bases, was exposed owing to the enemy's use of submarines, mines and torpedoes, pointing out that the High Seas Fleet possessed 53 compared with the Grand Fleet's 42 destroyers. He reveals the fact that owing to the submarine menace in Autumn 1914 the Grand Fleet moved into Lough Swilly and only returned to the North Sea when the Scapa Flow anchorage was rendered reasonably safe. He says that neither in October 1914 nor in May 1918 did the British margin of superiority justify him in disregarding the enemy's torpedo fire. The position gradually improved after 1916, especially as the light cruiser and destroyer forces with the Grand Fleet increased steadily after the Battle of Jutland, considerably reducing the danger of successful torpedo attack, while the inclusion of the K class submarines made it probable that the enemy would suffer more severely from submarine attack than the British.

Lord Jellicoe says regarding 1918: "The position was assured and we could have afforded to take risks which in 1916 would have been most unwise. If the German Fleet had come out to battle a terrible punishment awaited them."

One third of the book is devoted to the Battle of Jutland, summing up the lessons of which Lord Jellicoe dwells upon "the danger involved in leaving too much to chance in a fleet action, because our fleet was the one and only factor vital to the existence of the Empire, as indeed to the Allied cause. We had no reserve outside the battle fleet which could in any way replace it in the event of disaster, or even should its margin of superiority be eliminated." Moreover Lord Jellicoe knew his ships were inadequately protected with armour compared with the German vessels of the battle cruiser type, while the German fleet at Jutland was far better off in destroyers in addition to their possession of a most efficient armoured piercing shell. When the battle fleets approached there was a difference in reckoning between the British battle fleet and battle cruiser squadrons, due to the latter being engaged for several hours on the enemy's flank. Lord Jellicoe decided to deploy on the port wing division, thus compelling the Germans to turn off to starboard to avoid being crossed. This masterly manoeuvre, as the reviewers describe it, threw the enemy into complete confusion. The German Admiralism realised that his only hope lay in escape, profiting by his superiority in torpedocraft, the low visibility, the approach of darkness and his proximity to his bases and minefields. The enemy at this period fired hundreds of torpedoes, as German officers have since stated, and though the Germans were in greatest peril the position of the Grand Fleet itself, manœuvred by determined torpedo attacks in thick weather, was not enviable; but the British Fleet, by four times turning their battle line during the action, cleared the torpedoes which were racing towards the British ships and defeated the tactics whereon the Germans based their hopes. Lord Jellicoe pays a tribute to the skill of his Captains in handling their ships and thus avoiding torpedoes and collisions while keeping their strengths of the two fleets early in the war, expresses surprise that the enemy was so cautious, and says "If this country in the future decides to rely for safety against raids or invasion on the Fleet alone, it is essential that we possess a considerably greater margin of superiority over a possible enemy in all classes of vessels than in August 1914."

Lord Jellicoe's book makes it clear that the Hampshire was mined. He says that Lord Jellicoe permitted her staying in bad weather, saying he had no time to leave. The storm prevented the sending of a message to her.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

SOCIALISTS AND BOLSHIEVISM.

Berlin, Feb. 12.
The Socialist Conference has appointed a Commission to proceed to Russia at M. Lenin's invitation to investigate the results of Bolshevism. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is the British delegate to it.
The Socialist Conference has ended. The final sitting was noteworthy for Mr. Arthur Henderson's denunciation of Bolshevism, which was supported by the majority of delegates.

LABOUR UNREST IN AMERICA.

New York, Feb. 2.
News from Butte (Montana) states that meetings organised by the Industrial Workers of the World resolved to strike for higher wages and shorter hours as a counter-stroke to the mineowners' reduction of wages by a dollar a day. Armed labour pickets prevented the miners from working.
Agreements have been reached in the great textile strikes in New Jersey and Massachusetts, but there is a strike of engineers and bricklayers as a retort to the employers' threat of a lockout.
The striking carpenters will probably suspend building construction in the leading cities of eastern United States.

THE VICTORY BALL.

A BRILLIANT FUNCTION.

The Victory Ball, given at the City Hall, last evening, by the members of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, proved to be one of the most brilliant functions ever held in the Colony. About a thousand invitations were sent out and included among the guests were His Excellency the Office Administrator, the Government (the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G.), Mr. Justice Melbourne, His Excellency the General Officer Commanding (Major General F. Ventris) and Miss Ventris, Commodore and Mrs. Gunner, Col. Young, Commander and Mrs. Beckwith, Major and Mrs. Morgan, Captain Fisher, R.N. and Mrs. Fisher, Mr. P.P.J. Wodehouse A.D.C., and the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. A.H. Leman. The guests privately invited included most of the prominent members of the community.

The two large halls were beautifully decorated as were the other portions of the building. On the balustrade, facing the first landing, was a beautifully designed crest of the Institution, brilliantly lit with electric lights and in the main ball room was a finely designed decoration which embodied the painting of Queen Victoria with the word "Victory" as a centrepiece picked out in electric lights with a red background. It would take columns adequately to describe the beautiful and artistic designs, and the hosts are to be congratulated upon securing an effect that could not possibly be rivalled. Music was provided by the band of the 18th Infantry and the Theatre Royal was arranged as a supper room. The dances were announced by an electrical device and included Lancers, Fox Trots, Two Steps, the Eightsome Reel and Valses. His Excellency and party were met by Mr. J. W. Graham and a settee was provided, on a raised dais, for the accommodation of the distinguished guests. The Hongkong Hotel looked after the catering in the usual efficient manner which we now know so well, and the committees who were responsible for the arrangements are to be congratulated.

Their work must have been enormous, but nothing was omitted that would add to the comfort of the dancers, and the function will long remain in the memory of those who were present as one of the most perfectly arranged dances within recollection.

The various Committees were as follows:

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

(Wah Taz Yat Po Service.)

Shanghai, Feb. 14.
Mr. Obata still opposes the idea of disclosing the secret agreements immediately, under the excuse that no instructions have yet been received from Japan. China has therefore determined to disclose the agreements first. In reply to the request of Mr. Luk Ching-chang, chief Paris delegate, for copies of secret documents, the Peking Government has cabled that the originals are in the possession of General Chu Shu-teang and Mr. Tso Yu-wei. The Government therefore cannot supply copies now, but will publish everything soon.
The American Legation at Peking has received instructions from Washington to inform the Peking Government that China may have confidence that America will abide by President Wilson's declaration and help China.

Peking, Feb. 14.
A general meeting of the League of Nations Society was held at the Law College here yesterday. A thousand attendants, including Messrs. Wong Chung-wai, Liang Shi-yi and Hsiung Pei-ling are supporting President Wilson's scheme of a League of Nations. Mr. Liang Chi-chao, now in Paris, was elected President of the Society, and was requested to notify the Chinese peoples of President Wilson's support.
So far, Japan has decided to disclose the twenty-one demands and the Shantung, Mongolian and Manchurian railway agreements. The local papers demand the disclosure of the arms alliance and the joint defence agreements.

Chairman of the Ball.—Mr. J. W. Graham.

Invitation Committee.—Messrs. J. Reid (convener), J. W. Graham, K. E. Greig, R. M. Dyer, W. C. Jack, D. Macdonald, R. Hunter.

Wine Committee.—Messrs. G. J. Harman (convener), W. R. Oswald, A. Davidson, J. Tulley, W. J. Owens, A. D. Macdonald, W. J. Hill, J. MacCubbin.

Supper Committee.—Messrs. B. L. Frost (convener), F. W. James, J. Fasse, J. W. Eaton, J. Macdonald, T. Petrie, T. Neave, R. J. Wilton, R. Hunter, S. T. Williams.

Decoration Committee.—Messrs. R. M. Dyer (convener), W. Russell, H. B. Bridger, W. Davison, R. V. Cameron, S. Gray, R. Hall, R. Henderson, J. Dalziel, J. Ramsay.

Dance Committee.—Messrs. A. K. Henderson (convener), C. G. Nelson, W. Brown, J. Parkes, G. Grot, J. Stewart, R. J. Wilton, K. E. Greig.

Card Committee.—Messrs. J. Ormiston (convener), J. McCormack, W. E. Oswald, W. J. Owens, G. Gerrard, R. W. Ramsay.

Hon. Secretary, Mr. S. Baker. Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Stalker.

FROM WAR TO SPORT.

BY W. HAROLD THOMSON.

I wonder how many of you since Armistice Day have not what with my assistance, my friend Stewart did the other evening.

When I called at his house his wife greeted me in something of a pretty distress.

"If you wish to see him, I'm afraid that you'll need to go upstairs," she said, "right up to the lumber room. I don't believe that he'd come down to-night, even for you. He's deserted me already, you see, and he's been back from France for only a fortnight."

"What's the matter?" I asked. She laughed. "Oh, nothing dreadful. You'll find him absolutely happy. You know your way?"

Nodding, I thanked her, and a couple of minutes or so later stood looking into the big, lamp-lighted lumber-room.

Stewart, quite unaware of my presence, was standing with his back to me, a litter of sporting gear about him. He was whistling and was obviously in complete content.

As I watched he took the parts of a light fly-rod from their case, examined them with loving care, and presently swished the topmost part lightly as though in fancy sending out a cast. Half a dozen times he did this, and then, hearing me speak his name, turned and faced me.

"Come in!" he said, with all his pre-war highness of spirit. "Sit down on that box there and light your pipe and watch me. Man, I'm having a night of nights! I'm handling the old favourites again and getting 'em ready for use. It's four years and more since I so much as saw 'em. I always knew that I'd have to wait for the bally thing to end."

"Peace isn't signed yet," I pointed out.

"Pooh!" He snapped a finger and thumb. "If you're going to be crazy you can clear out. Before you go, though, just hand over that salmon-rod, will you? I seem to remember that there was something wrong with it."

Half a dozen rods were examined, patted, made notes upon, and reverently returned to their cases. Then came a couple of guns which in their owner's absence Mrs. Stewart had herself cleaned and oiled from time to time.

Then out came the well-stocked golf-bag. "Stand back for just a second," Stewart ordered, with the enthusiasm of a school-boy starting on holiday. "I want to try a swing." He did, and when he had finished I begged for the club: I was catching the fever again myself!

Up there in the tiny, rambling room we tried every club in the bag, every shot which we could remember in golf.

And when we stood, rather flushed and breathing a little more quickly than before, we smiled at each other.

"Mac!" my host exclaimed, "can you believe it's true, that we can go back to it all again? Do you mind your summer you spent with me in Perthshire—the moon and the lochs and the burns? And you month at Cruden Bay, when for the first and last time in your life you beat me in a thirty-six hole match? Oh, the memories of sport!"

He glanced at the rods and the clubs and the guns, then again at me.

"It's been a ravelling fine evening I've spent here," he said. "And now comes down and has a drink. I want to talk to you about next year. I've got all the gun-works and the maps looked out."

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GENERAL NEWS.

BRITISH DYES.

In reference to the question of the amalgamation between British Dyes, Ltd., and Levinstein, Ltd., the Board of Directors of British Dyes have, after consultation with the committee of shareholders appointed at the meeting last August, come to the conclusion that it is desirable, and an agreement has accordingly been approved, for the proposed purchasing company to acquire the shares of British Dyes, Ltd., and Levinstein, Ltd., instead of purchasing their assets.

CANTON-MACAO RAILROAD.

The Canton-Macao Railroad Co. expects to begin construction within three months, according to Leung Chi Was, acting managing director of the proposed corporation. The Ministry of Communication of the Constitutional Government has approved of the application of the interested persons to have their franchise restored. It will be remembered that the road was proposed and franchise given some six years ago but it was cancelled because of the failure of the prospective stockholders to comply with the terms of the Government within the time limited. Several weeks ago, the franchise was restored. The capital stock of the company is \$10,000,000; and it was told to a reporter of the Times that some \$2,000,000 has been collected so far. The road expects to run from Fong-chuen, south of the river, to Macao, passing through many rice districts like Nam-hoi, Pun-yu Shantak, and Heungshan, terminating the central line at Macao. There will also be a branch to connect Chan-chuen and Kongmoon. The two lines will be more than 350 Chinese li in length. The company now has office on the Bund.

THOSE MICROBES!

An amusing story was told by Dr. A. T. Schofield in discussing "Christian Sanity" at a meeting of the Victoria Institute in the Central Hall, Westminster. "I saw a lady the other day," he said, "who was brought to me because she would do nothing but wash herself; and, in the same week, a wealthy barrister who would not wash at all. In stating their cases both were extremely reasonable. Indeed, by comparison, I seemed to be almost irrational. The lady explained that this is a dirty world, laden with malignant germs, which swarm everywhere, on every piece of furniture or paper, on every article of clothing, and on the skin. If she touched a chair, or, indeed, any object, her hand was covered with microbes. I could not deny it. 'Therefore I wash,' said she, 'and am always washing with disinfectant soap.' (Laughter.) She smelt strongly of carbolic, and her hands were like a washer-woman's. She was absolutely useless to anyone, and yet was perfectly reasonable. The barrister no less so. He also found it a dirty world. (Laughter.) Micro organisms everywhere! Whatever you did you were covered with them. Washing was utterly futile as a protection; therefore, 'why wash?' (Laughter.) Hence he had given up the unequal conflict—reasonable again."

WINGARNS

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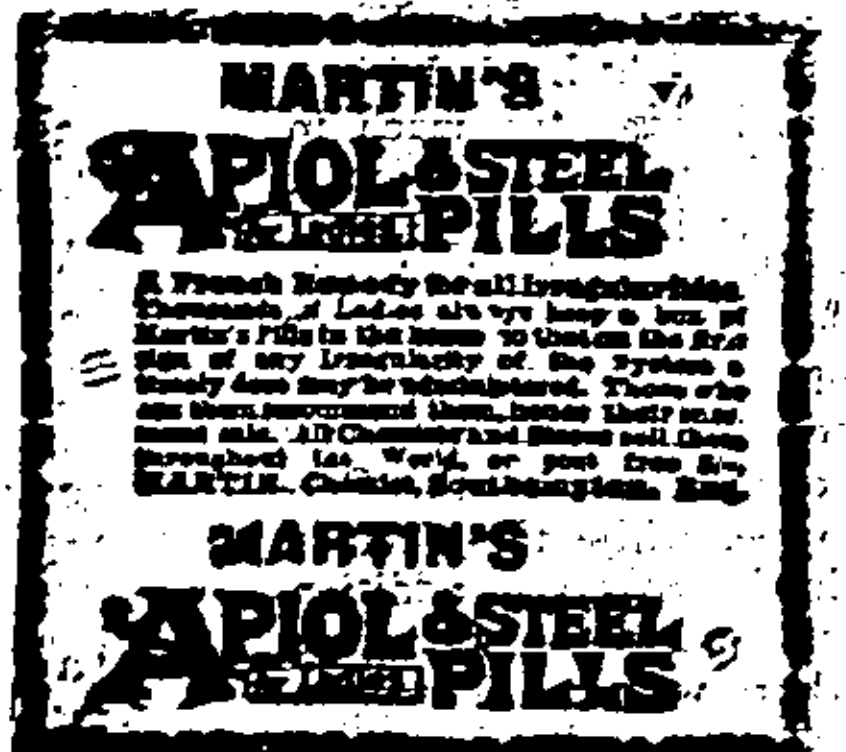
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FRENCH PRISONERS SHOT.

The inhuman brutality which has characterised the Germans' attitude towards Allied prisoners has received further illustration in the particularly revolting conditions in the camp at Langensalz. According to the first reports received by the Spanish Ambassador in Berlin, nine French prisoners were shot point blank by the German guards at this camp, and fifteen others severely wounded. Two delegates from the Spanish Embassy sent to Langensalz, confirmed the report of the abominable crime committed against the unhappy French prisoners, who were impatiently awaiting their forthcoming liberation. The report of the Spanish delegates, as the Spanish Minister at Bern has informed the French Government, shows that the attitude of the prisoners in no way justified such methods of repression.

NOTICE.



MARTIN'S APOLASTER PILLS

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GENERAL NEWS.

RELINQUISHING THE MEN OVERSEAS.

All the machinery for the demobilisation of the Armies in France is now working, writes an officer engaged in the work overseas. As yet it is running at very low speed, but when one considers the enormous amount of detail necessary—the documents to be issued, the lorries and rolling stock required for transporting parties by stages to their port of embarkation, satisfactory progress has been made. Miners are the first to be released. The first notification received by the men is a paragraph in the orders of his unit to the effect that those belonging to this trade will report to the Orderly Room. There the preliminaries are gone through. Then the order for their release is received, and the parties are taken to their corps' concentration camp. Here they spend one night. Every possible arrangement is made, or is being made, for their comfort. Suitable sleeping quarters, dining accommodation, and recreation huts are being built. The men then make another step on their way to England, by lorry or by train, to their Army staging camp. One night here, and they entrain for their port of embarkation.

RESCUE ON GOODWINS.

A thrilling rescue of seven men from the Goodwin Sands was made recently by the crew of a small boat. It is not often that a vessel which is being towed rescues the craft which is towing her. But this happened in the present instance while the only light to guide the rescuers was an electric pocket torch. At 3.40 a.m. the tug Seagull, with a crew of seven, having in tow the three-masted barque Margarita, with a crew of 18, bound from Hull to France with a cargo of coal, ran ashore on the north-west Goodwin in a moderate wind and a heavy sea. As soon as the Seagull got on to the sands she rolled over on to her broadside. Capt. A. Benson, of the Margarita, let go his anchor and thus saved his vessel. The crew of the Seagull were forced to lie flat on the wide of their vessel to avoid being washed off. The captain of the barque and his men managed to lower the boat, and with the aid only of a pocket torch they reached the tug. Fortunately the master had a new battery with him, and when the light went out he refilled the torch. They had to flash the light on to each man in order to reach him.

"FOR ENGLAND'S BENEFIT."

Lieut. Sidney Hume, R.A.F., 33, who had been an inmate at Letchmere House Military Hospital for Mental Cases, Ham Common, Richmond, since August, when he was repatriated from Germany, was remanded at Kingston Police Court recently, on a charge of murdering Private Robert Aldridge, R.A.M.C., one of the orderlies at the hospital. He was in mufti, and appeared to be in a highly nervous and frail condition. The detective who arrested him said: "I told him I should arrest him for the murder of Private Aldridge. He replied, 'I strongly protest against going back to Letchmere before going to make my statement at Scotland Yard. I am not mad. I did it for reasons so important that I have put myself in this position. I did it for the reason that my statement could not be suppressed. It was for the benefit of England.'"

MISS MADGE TITHERADGE.

A decree of restitution was granted recently in the Divorce Court to Miss Madge Titheradge, the actress, who in private life is Mrs. Margaret Naomi Quartermaine. The petitioner, who gave her address as Stratford-place, stated in the witness-box that she married Charles George Quartermaine in 1910, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, London, at first fairly happily. In September 1914 she complained of her husband's coldness towards her, and he left the house. From time to time she tried to get him to make up their differences, but he did not return.

WINGARNS

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NOTICES.

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TWO IMPRESSIONS OF
BERLIN.

BY A RUHLER PRISONER.

On my last day of liberty—Nov. 5, 1914—I set off from Charlottenburg and walked through the Tiergarten towards Unter den Linden.

The whole city was wearing a smile of complacency. The expression of the ornate, stuccoed buildings, the product of the period since 1870, was one with the expression of the faces, a certain heavy vanity and self-satisfaction hung over them. The self-elected lords of the world were drunk with their premature successes, and saw before their dazed eyes a future of universal dominion.

In Bismarck Strasse a book-shop window caught my eye. At the top of the pane was a fancy map representing Europe after the war. England had retired, according to this Prussian prophecy beyond a line running roughly from Liverpool to Edinburgh. France was still clinging to a narrow strip east of the Pyrenees, and the outline of Russia was ominous of the future treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Next to this was a placard with an interesting heading: "German Girls! Spit in the Englishman's Face!"—a preparatory exercise, perhaps, for the serious work of organised hating which should come later. In all corners of the window thin and fragile Highlanders, symbolic of the British Army, were depicted in postures of terrified prostration before an idealised Landsturmmann.

THE CONFIDENT CITY.

Along the road a company of Uhlands passed, riding out to Potsdam. The same arrogant confidence was visible in their bearing. Enthusiastic old ladies threw them cigarettes. I walked on into the Tiergarten, where the oaks and beeches had wrapped themselves in their russet autumn cloaks. Swaying and sighing in the wind, they seemed to be mourning over the spectacle of human madness and futility. It was a blessed thing to bury oneself in their sombre and quiet recesses. Out of the continual streets and discord of life in the enemy capital, out of sight of their flags and trophies, out of sound of their brag and vanity. Trees are the same all the world over, and parts of the Kaiser's Tiergarten were as peaceful and homely as an English wood.

The Brandenburger Gate, surmounted by the brazen Chariot of Victory rose into view above the tree-tops. Huge crowds were assembled at its base; a procession was coming with guns captured at the battles of the Masurian Lakes. Troops of mounted police, armed with sabres and revolvers, rode hither and thither, driving the eager crowd back on to the pavements, while down the open causeway long grey motor-cars flew past filled with officers of the garrison. Presently a company of East Prussian Landsturm appeared—small elderly men in black overcoats; and behind them the long train of captured guns.

When daylight began to fade the nightlife, of which Berlin was so stupidly proud, began to show itself in the Friedrichstadt quarter. The cafes, cabarets, and dancing saloons were soon crowded. From the brilliantly-lighted rooms the sounds of "Deutschland über Alles" and "Die Wacht am Rhein" came mingled with the strains of "Puppchen." The month-long orgy of celebration was starting again. Under the red stars I walked home through the Tiergarten, under the stars which shine on the just and the unjust, on the England and the Germany of 1914.

THE CITY DEFEAT.

For four years we Britishers were confined within the barbed wire fences of Ruhleben. Then a few days after the outbreak of the revolution I was walking again down the Bismarck Strasse towards Berlin. It was raining; the streets were covered with watery mud, and round the houses a low mist was clinging. There were still flags to be seen, but they were the red flags of revolution. The stucco-work on the house-fronts had decayed and fallen away; the faces of the passers-by were no longer complacent, but grim and hungry; they trudged along unsmilingly, their eyes fixed on the ground. The women bore clearly the marks of under-feeding; their skin was yellow and transparent.

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their eyes dull and fatigued. Whether there are food-supplies in the rural districts or not, I cannot say, but certain it is that the poorer population of Berlin is near the brink of starvation. One shop in three was closed, and such as were open, had little to sell. The bakers showed nothing but the small rye-loaves, one of which is the weekly allowance per head. Here and there long queues were standing, shivering in threadbare clothes before the door of a butcher or greengrocer and over them all hung the same heavy despondency, the same absence of vitality and spirit.

In the centre of Berlin the changes wrought by the war were still more striking. Before the Iron Hindenburg I found a group of compatriots from Ruhleben, industriously engaged in pulling out the nails. A German soldier made himself useful by loosening them with his pen-knife. Other Germans stood looking on apathetically, but no one made a sign of protest. Round Unter den Linden the streets showed signs of fighting. The university library and several of the cafes were "chipped" with rifle bullets, and the scars of machine-gun fire were festooned like necklaces of dull pearl across their facades. Over the Imperial Palace the red flag was flying, and the streets around it were filled with patrols of armed

sailors. Adversity seems to have wrought a tremendous change in the mental outlook of the people. Vanity and dreams were gone, and a cold objectivity had replaced them. Several expressed their thankfulness that Germany had lost the war, believing that the lot of the German people under a victorious autocracy would have been far worse than it now is. No one seemed disposed to deny Germany's guilt in causing the war. The Kaiser, Tirpitz, and Ludendorff, were spoken of with hatred and contempt. "The pity of it one man said to me, 'is that it needed years of war before we could shake off our yoke.'"

As I passed through the streets late that night, I saw several groups of soldiers returning from the front. Cold, wet, insufficiently clothed, with no shelter and scarcely any food, they trudged apathetically through the muddy streets. The crowds on the pavements turned away from them; there seemed to be no welcome, no preparations for their reception. They looked in truth the very raw material of Bolshevism, the vanguard of a wave which threatens to engulf the country in chaos.

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The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1919.

CONSTRUCTION NOT DESTRUCTION.

"He would say, on behalf of the Government, with all solemnity, they were determined to fight Prussianism in the industrial world exactly as they had fought it on the Continent, namely, with the whole might of the nation." The above is an extract from the Premier's speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday, and we quote it as representing the view with which the recent industrial unrest is generally regarded throughout Britain. There have been two very important declarations on the subject during the last few days, first by the King in his speech from the Throne and secondly by Mr. Lloyd George in the speech mentioned above. It is clear that the Government has recognised the vital necessity of finding an immediate remedy for the labour troubles, and that it has perceived that it is face to face with one of the greatest problems in the history of the nation. We have spoken in these columns on the subject before, but it is so vast, so overwhelming, so far-reaching that it is impossible to say too much about it. The new task that has to be accomplished is the virtual establishment of a new social order. Think of the magnitude of the proposition.

Since the beginning of history, the advance of the different classes has been a long gradual process which has stretched over thousands of years, until it has arrived at its present state. This gradual process was still going on before the war, but even then we could perceive on the part of the workers a striving after better things, and the war only served to quicken these aspirations. The present industrial situation is the result. Labour has found its feet and has recognised its greatness. It will not be content with the old system in which class distinction played the greatest part, and its present demands are a real attempt to find itself a better and more place in the social order. The Government understands this, and knows that these aspirations must be fulfilled. Workers must be encouraged in their efforts, and new methods must be found at once to ensure that their just demands are answered. We consider that the Government is alive to this necessity, and is already taking steps to do away with the evils of which the workers complain. Vast schemes are already projected by which there is every reason to hope that better conditions will prevail in the future.

The first thing to be done is to ensure that the poverty and squalor which obtained at Home before the war can not return. It is after all a question of money. Give the workers more wages and better housing conditions, and it will be found that all the other benefits, for which they sigh, will come. The desires of Labour have become a national question, and prompt and comprehensive methods must be found at once. There must be a levelling process, as the King says in his speech: "That the gifts of leisure and prosperity may more generally be shared throughout the community is my ardent desire." There is no one who does not sympathise with the desires of the workers, but in the attempt to achieve them they must not allow themselves to be led astray by the efforts of a few men whose desire it is to destroy, and not to construct. Many of the old forms must of course be destroyed, but the whole task is in itself one of reconstruction. The workers must look for help to the Government and not to those few men who think that betterment will come by overthrowing existing order. Look at what men like these have done for Russia. Let the workers put their faith in the Government and they may rest assured that all their just demands will be granted. But if they choose the other course, they will only make things worse, for the law into their own hands. We have no doubt that the sentence which we quote above from Mr. Lloyd George's speech typifies the spirit of the entire Government.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A CONCRETE PROPOSAL.

So far, the discussions regarding a League of Nations have been of a rather vague and nebulous character. This, in the early stages of the deliberations, was bound to be so, but now the delegates in Paris are getting down to the practical aspect of the question. A big advance has been made, so a wire says, by the French proposal for the creation of an International Army and Navy. Now we are getting some definite idea of the nature of the scheme contemplated. From the first it was apparent that a League of Nations would be absolutely useless did it not possess the means of enforcing its will on those who might threaten to break the peace of the world, and the question arose as to what instrument would be employed in such an eventuality. The idea put forward probably means that each of the States in the League would contribute its quota towards the international forces which would of course, only operate on the decision of the League when a case for action arises. In other words, there would be established a kind of International Police Force on land and sea whose business it would be to watch the unruly and those on whom suspicions fall.

A QUESTION OF OUTLOOK.

The International Socialist Conference which has been sitting at Bern since apparently concluded its sittings, though very little has been divulged as to the decisions it has reached. There is one bit of news, however, which should have widespread satisfaction among those who are not extremists, and that is that Mr. Arthur Henderson has treated the delegates to a strong denunciation of Bolshevism and that the majority of his hearers supported his viewpoint. The Conference, however, has accepted an invitation from the notorious M. Lenin to send a Commission to Russia in order to study the results of Bolshevism in that much-distracted country. The British delegate, we are informed, is Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, who will possibly find his "spiritual home" in Russia. There is no reason, of course, why first-hand information should not be sought concerning what is actually happening in that land, but we would rather take somebody else's version of the facts than Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's. His ideals are scarcely those of the average level-headed Britisher, and what would appear good in his eyes would hardly commend itself to those of us who, while sympathising with democracy, hope to see justice done to the masses by constitutional means.

GOVERNMENT BY JEWS.

Creations of new States and their compositions are in the air. The future of Palestine has not as yet been settled. The claims of the Jews with regard to this territory have been recognised, but it is a debatable point whether Palestine should be handed to the Jewish peoples immediately. A section of the Jews, we are told, themselves do not ask this, for they recognise that they are not ripe for self-government. Under the circumstances, the League of Nations, if such an "institution" fructifies, must be entrusted with the task of governing the country until the Jews of the land have reached that stage of development when the affairs of the country could be safely administered by them. That may be a narrow-minded view, or it may not. The Jewish nation is a highly intellectual nation, and members of the race adorn the Council Chambers of the world. To say that the Jews are not in a position to take over the government of Palestine immediately, when there is such a galaxy of Jewish administrative talent throughout the world, would not be tenable. We read that a telegram received at the French Consulate at Omsk announced that a Jewish Government would be formed in Palestine, and giving the names of the prospective holders of portfolios. This seems a bit previous, but, at any rate, the names mentioned are worthy of being reproduced. They include M. Brandes, the well-known Danish Socialist, who is to be Premier; M. Hase Norda, the author, as Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Israel Zangwill, the English novelist, as Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Sokoloff, the Russian statesman, as Minister of the Interior; Baron Goldsmith-Rothschild, of Germany, as Minister of War; Lord

DAY BY DAY.

THE MOST DIFFICULT HONESTY IN THIS WORLD FOR A MAN TO PRACTISE IS TO BE HONEST WITH HIMSELF WHEN HE HAS DONE WRONG OR DESIRES TO DO SO.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 23.16d.

The Union Lyrio Society has been exempted from registration under the Societies Ordinance.

His Honour the Chief Justice has ordered that no Criminal Sessions shall be held in the month of February, 1919.

During yesterday five cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis were notified, of which two were fatal. The sufferers were all Chinese.

Mr. Herbert Gastineau Earle, M.A., M.B. (Cambridge), has been appointed a Member of the Medical Board during the absence from the Colony of Mr. Kenelm Hutchison Digby, M.B., B.S. (London), F.R.C.S. (England).

The Board of Arbitrators, appointed to determine the amount of compensation to be paid in resumption of Lot No. 2471, Survey District IV, is constituted as follows:—Mr. Arnold Hackney Hollingsworth, Chairman; Mr. Eric William Hamilton, nominated by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government; Mr. Arthur Chapman, nominated by the Chairman.

During January the average mean temperature was 61.5 and the average humidity 81. There were 81.8 hours of sunshine and 0.625-inch of rain. The relative humidity was the highest on record except in 1887 and 1901 when it was 82% and 83% respectively. The amount of cloud has been exceeded on three occasions. It was 90% in 1887, 80% in 1889, and 91% in 1912. In these years the amount of sunshine was 78.8h., 77.0h., and 9.4h. respectively.

Booking is brisk for the grand variety concert to be held on Saturday, the 22nd inst., in aid of the Ministering League funds and gives every indication of a bumper house. With the realisation of such a result, it will enable the general fund to provide the workers with the necessary materials to make the numerous articles for the annual bazaar in November. Last year nearly \$13,000 was obtained as the result of the bazaar, which was distributed to the Ottershaw Home, and the several charities of the League helps to support. After the splendid results previously obtained, it is hoped that the public will give their hearty support to the forthcoming concert.

THE COLONY'S FINANCES.

The Hongkong Treasury issues the following financial statement for the month of October, 1918:

Balance of Assets and Liabilities on 31st October, 1918	\$
Revenue from 1st to 31st October, 1918	6,723,590.94
Expenditure from 1st to 31st October, 1918	1,843,538.97
	8,567,129.91
Balance \$ 5,454,735.41	
• Crown Agents' accounts for September also included.	

Rothschild, the English politician, as Minister of Finance; and M. Mandelstam, the Russian professor, as Minister of Justice. This would make quite an imposing showing, but there are many other names that we could also suggest. We are certainly travelling fast now-a-days, and anti-Semitism is to-day dying in the last ditch. An American wireless message from Paris states that a great majority of the delegates at the Peace Conference are determined that once for all absolute justice must be assured to the Jews without any loop hole.

TO LIVE OR NOT TO LIVE.

A STUDY OF HONGKONG'S HOUSING DIFFICULTIES.

An Interesting Co-operative Scheme.

["Hongkong Telegraph" Special.]

If a Rip Van Winkle were to come back to Hongkong to-day after twenty-five years' sleep in a wild region, the places that would most astound him with their unrecognisability would be the middle and upper levels and Kowloon. The new houses and new roads would leave him wonder-stricken. Ten years ago, Caine Road, Robinson Road, Macdonnell Road, Conduit Road and Kennedy Road were the social preserves of the aristocrats. To-day Rip Van Winkle would find that the European has been driven away from these strongholds by the Japanese and Chinese.

In Hongkong to-day there is a great dearth of houses, and we can picture to ourselves what the situation will probably be a few years hence. A landlord with a cottage to let may in all likelihood have to select a score of prospective eager tenants from among the applicants and invite them to throw off with the dice to decide who may become the new tenant. At present there is scarcely a house empty in Hongkong, and it is common knowledge that sums of money are being offered for the keys of houses likely to become empty. As regards the future accommodation necessary adequately to ensure the comfort, health and moral well-being of the community it is difficult to give an accurate estimate, but it is calculated that some hundreds of houses will be required. How pressing the question of house accommodation has become is known to all who have had an opportunity of investigating conditions. The difficulty which newcomers experience in obtaining accommodation of any kind, even at exorbitant rents, has had the effect of forcing a large percentage of the "foreign" population to find homes at a great distance from their work, causing them to spend a considerable sum in ferry fares and rickshaws. Employees who are housed in comparative comfort in healthy surroundings have only found these at considerable distance from their office. Such conditions may perhaps be tolerated, but they are sure to become chronic after few years, at the rate of progress which Hongkong has registered during the last few years.

In Hongkong the European has to pay heavily for poor accommodation, the landlord's exactions being a distinct bar to social amelioration. The problem is one that grows worse each day that it is neglected. In the absence of sufficient accommodation in Hongkong, many are now turning their attention to Kowloon. We recently had an opportunity of studying the co-operative housing scheme of Mr. J. M. Alves, who is solving the difficult house problem for 44 families. There is, no doubt, that Kowloon is, going to be the future residential quarter of middle-class people.

Mr. Alves's housing plan is fairly simple. It is, as we have said, somewhat on the co-operative scale. The tenant gets into the house, pays down thirty per cent. of the purchase price, and the balance at his discretion from \$5 upwards. If it is paid within five years, a discount of \$250 is allowed. The houses on an average cost \$7,500, and they are four-roomed. To assist the prospective owners to have a better sinking fund, it is the intention of Mr. Alves to help in building up on a portion of the garden attached to each house another room, so that there is a possibility of the owner getting rental for that room should be to able let it out to an outsider.

We gather from Mr. Alves some figures about the sinking fund. For instance, taking Salisbury Avenue, a man buying one of the houses would have to pay about \$2,400 in cash, leaving \$4,800 to be redeemed on a mortgage. The house at present is fetching a rental of \$50 a month. If we take into consideration the new additional room which it is intended to make, the house should be able to be rented for \$65 per month, or \$780 per annum. The additional room in contemplation would cost, say, another \$400 to \$500 more. Calculating interest at 7 per cent., the owner would have to pay \$371 per annum, which should leave him \$501 to the good to serve as a sinking fund. Any one looking at this figure would be able to realise that in a few years the whole mortgage would be wiped out and the house thus become the property of the owner.

The blocks are Austin Avenue, Salisbury Avenue, Granville Avenue and Cameron Terrace. Austin Avenue consists of 15 houses which have all been disposed of to the owners. They comprise several 4-room houses and two 5-room houses. To each of these houses there is a small garden attached, giving it the touch of a cottage.

1894.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

(Compiled from the "Hongkong Telegraph" files for week ending February 25, 1894.)

THE DOLLAR.
February 17.—The rate of the Dollar, on demand, to day is 2s. 1.11/2d.

A FORGERY CASE.
February 19.—A forgery case, in which a late employee of one of the Nam-pak hong figures prominently, is now engaging the attention of the detective force. The hong's "chop" was used to the tune of \$3,000, but whether the firm or the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will have to bear the loss, we are not in a position to state.

V.R.C. AQUATIC SPORTS.
February 20.—It may interest some of our aquatic "sports" to learn that the barque "Kitty," which Captain Wilson courteously placed at the disposal of the V.R.C., as flagship, at the late regatta, sailed for Manila to-day, to load for the "auld country."

A "CROOKED" SUICIDE.

February 21.—When we went to press, yesterday, a burial order had been granted by the Coroner, for the interment of the mortal remains of the hapless Sikh constable who committed suicide, on the Peak Road, on Monday evening; and, as a matter of fact, the friends of the deceased carried the coffin down to Happy Valley during the afternoon. But the burial did not take place, for the Coroner, withdrew the burial order yesterday afternoon and caused the body to be taken back to the mortuary owing, we believe, to a statement that there was "something crooked" about the suicide.

A PAPER CHASE.

February 22.—Under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, a moonlight paper chase, on a small scale, was held last night. About thirty members took part, and though the distance was not phenomenal, the experiment was a success.

THE RACES.

February 22.—The annual race meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club was commenced, at the Happy Valley, this afternoon, under most favourable auspices, the weather being brilliant in the extreme, the race-course in capital order and the attendance of all classes much larger than has been the case for years past.

EXCHANGE.

February 23.—The dollar is now quoted at 2s. 0.3/4—two shillings and three farthings. We would be immensely pleased to interview Mr. Secretary O'Brien about that half-crown of his; but our life insurance people threaten to withdraw the policy if we do so.

rental of \$50 a month. If we take into consideration the new additional room which it is intended to make, the house should be able to be rented for \$65 per month, or \$780 per annum. The additional room in contemplation would cost, say, another \$400 to \$500 more. Calculating interest at 7 per cent., the owner would have to pay \$371 per annum, which should leave him \$501 to the good to serve as a sinking fund. Any one looking at this figure would be able to realise that in a few years the whole mortgage would be wiped out and the house thus become the property of the owner.

The blocks are Austin Avenue, Salisbury Avenue, Granville Avenue and Cameron Terrace. Austin Avenue consists of 15 houses which have all been disposed of to the owners. They comprise several 4-room houses and two 5-room houses. To each of these houses there is a small garden attached, giving it the touch of a cottage.

Salisbury Avenue is a smaller block than Austin Avenue, having twelve 4-room and two 5-room houses. Salisbury Avenue is not so well situated as Austin. Still the houses in Salisbury will be very suitable dwellings for people of moderate means. These houses are being disposed of at \$7,250 each on an installment basis.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Cambrai provides a nice juxtaposition of incentives to virtue at the present moment. The Anglican Church has been sited for the present in an old billiard-room that opens on the A.P.M.'s yard. Most of the rest of the yard is occupied by a formidable barbed-wire cage with the label "Field Punishment Compound." A good text for an enterprising padre would be the ancient and secular one, "If you can't be good, be careful."

Holland, which is suffering from an acute food shortage, has never been well fed. A famous American chef declared a few years ago that the Dutch had "the poorest meals of any country." They produced fine beef and vegetables, he said, but "it seems they export the good and eat the scrub." Germany gets their beef and England their vegetables and eggs. What they did retain was "spoiled in the cooking. They roast the rump of beef in Holland, and it is like chewing leather."

The old battlefield is at present an almost incredible wilderness. In Cambrai itself and east of it the civilians are returning to comparatively habitable homes. And west of Albert, of course, the desolation ends. But between Cambrai and Albert you see little life at all, and between Bapaume and Albert the culminating level desolation is so awful that it is difficult to think of life ever returning to the region. On the straight Albert-Bapaume road I saw only German prisoners working on the roadside in the raw mist and their few English guards. There seemed a certain grim justice in their presence.

How does it feel to be in mufti again after a long period of unrelieved khaki? On the whole one supposes that the general feeling is one of relief. Officers on leave from the front have generally made haste to get out of khaki for town purposes, and have rejoiced in the freedom of selection in the matter of collars, boots, socks, and ties, and the ranker is certainly glad to be relieved from the preoccupation of buttons and badges. Khaki is not uncomfortable if reasonably tailored, but there are few people who do not revolt against uniformity sooner or later. It was always so even in civilian life. The city man, correctly garbed in black in his working hours, was generally the best customer of the tailor with eccentric and cheerful clothes on his hands in the holiday season; the average men generally craved some variation from year to year in his winter overcoat and his spring suit. Even in the evening kit there have been sporadic attempts at variations of colour, and the morning coat has been set off with a pleasant "diversity in fancy" waistcoat. It may be conjectured that when choice is available the man who can afford to please himself will go in for raiment of many colours for some little time after his release from Army Regulations.

With regard to Granville Avenue, Mr. Alves is now allocating the houses in this block to the applicants. These are being very carefully selected so that whoever acquires a house in any of the blocks may have the satisfaction of knowing that the surroundings will be harmonious.

Encouraged by the three blocks that he had acquired, Mr. Alves has now extended his scheme to a fourth one, known as the Cameron Terrace, comprising 8 four-room houses fronting Cameron Road, which is an open locality. These houses will be offered for sale under his co-operative scheme at an early date, so that Mr. Alves will practically solve the housing difficulties for 44 families.

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THE MOST
MODERN
CARS IN
TOWN.THE COMING RACES.
TRAINING NOTES.

In spite of the fact that the weather was again very ungenial, there was quite a large crowd of racing enthusiasts, at the course this morning. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government (the Hon. Mr. Chud Severn, C.M.G.) being an interested spectator. Something happened to "Perhaps Not's" saddle and he left his rider (a boy) on the course, where he lay for some minutes, but later inquiry showed that no permanent damage was done. It is now possible to give some idea of the various animals' showing. In the Jardine stable, Wisdom and Alexandra are showing very good style. Although the whole times in their gallops this morning were slow, the first half-mile was very good. Both these ponies have a very good chance for the Derby. In Mr. Moller's string, good forms being shown considering the weight they have to carry, for Mr. Moller rides very heavy. There may be a surprise from this stable for the Derby; the ponies entered are not by any means to be despised. Mr. Potts' ponies are also doing well and when we know the weights to be carried a better opinion can be formed. Sir Paul Chater's Derby ponies are a very indifferent crowd and Sir Paul may have to be satisfied with small races. Mr. White appears to have been unfortunate also. Mr. Peel's ponies are going very slowly and it is assumed that the arrival of Mr. Johnstone is awaited to push them along. The subs. are about the average class but Bursi Length will take a lot of beating. Of the old ponies, Triumph, Spotted Sand and Attraction Dahlia are going in tip-top form. Mr. Vida and Mr. Moller are down, and others will probably soon be here, from Shanghai.

The following times were taken:

DERBY GRIFINS.

Grouse. One mile and a quarter. Last three quarters: 33.1/5; 1.17; 1.49.1/5.
American Chief. One mile and a quarter: 33.2/5; 1.8.2/5; 1.5.3/5; 2.19.4/5; 2.5.4.4/5.
Onions. One mile and a quarter: 32; 1.20.2/5; 1.58; 2.35.2/5; 3.9.
Vesuvius Dahlia. One mile: 35.1/5; 1.10.2/5; 1.45.1/5; 2.17.
Albion Dahlia. One mile and a half. Last mile and a quarter: 33.2/5; 1.8.1/5; 1.44.1/5; 2.19; 2.52.1/5.
Footlight and Limelight. One mile and a quarter: 40.1/5; 1.15; 1.48.2/5; 2.23.2/5; 3.30.
Meymoon. Last mile: 1.17.2/5; 2.25.
Alexander and Wisdom. One mile and a half: 42.3/5; 1.19.3/5; 1.55; 2.39.2/5.
Diadem Dahlia. One mile: 41.3/5; 1.21.1/5; 2.1; 2.35.4/5.

SUBSCRIPTION GRIFINS.

First Fiddle. One mile and a quarter: 38; 1.14.2/5; 1.50; 2.25; 3.0.
Stiggins and Torbay. One mile: 41; 1.17.4/5; 1.51; 2.25.
Rheostat. One mile: 34.4/5; 1.8.1/5; 1.42.2/5; 2.20.2/5.
Black Cat. One mile: 34.4/5; 1.8.1/5; 1.42.2/5; 2.17.4/5.
Turf King and Blighty King. One mile: 38; 1.16 4/5; 1.51.3/5; 2.25.

WINGARNIS
THE MARK OF LIFE

Woodworker. One mile: 44.2/5; 1.21.3/5; 1.56; 2.20.2/5.
Napco and Blighty. One mile and a quarter: 40.2/5; 1.18.4/5; 1.37; 2.28.2/5.
White Fang. One mile: 43; 1.23.2/5; 1.50; 2.32.
Bannock. One mile: 43; 1.23.2/5; 1.59; 2.30.2/5.
Swallow. One mile. Last three quarters: 33.3/5; 1.8; 1.42.2/5.
Dalesman. One mile: 35; 1.12; 1.47; 2.21.
Burst Length. Last three quarters: 35.2/5; 1.10.2/5; 1.42.3/5.
Grey Gris. One mile: 36.2/5; 1.12.2/5; 1.47; 2.23.2/5.
Taraatual. One mile: 36.2/5; 1.10; 1.45; 2.19.1/5.
Cassius. One mile. Last three quarters: 36; 1.10; 1.42.

OLD PONIES.

Weilhai Chief and Essex Chief. One mile: 33.4/5; 1.8.2/5; 1.44; 2.17.2/5.
Grey Goose. One mile and a half. Last mile: 30; 1.15 4/5; 1.53; 2.25.4/5.
Upwood Park. One mile and a quarter: 39; 1.15.2/5; 1.51; 2.24.3/5; 2.35.
Formosa Chief. Last mile and a quarter: 36.2/5; 1.10.2/5; 1.44; 2.15.2/5; 2.57.2/5.
Sandy. One mile and a quarter: 30.2/5; 1.19.2/5; 1.37.2/5; 2.33.4/5; 3.4.
Grey Mouse. One mile: 33.3/5; 1.15.2/5; 1.51.3/5; 2.22.3/5.
Gadilly and Firefly. One mile and a quarter: 37.2/5; 1.17.3/5; 1.56; 2.33.2/5; 3.5.
Congo Chief. One mile and a quarter: 33.2/5; 1.8.2/5; 1.53.1/5; 2.19.4/5; 2.56.
Spotted Sand. One mile: 34; 1.8.1/5; 1.42.1/5; 2.13.4/5.
Dainty Light. One mile and a half. Last mile: 38.3/5; 1.17.3/5; 1.53.4/5; 3.28.
Black Jack. One mile and a quarter. Last three quarters: 36; 1.13; 1.46.2/5.
Attraction Dahlia. One mile: 35; 1.11; 1.45; 2.16.2/5.
Mountain King. One mile: 35; 1.13.2/5; 1.46; 2.17.
Valley King. One mile: 38; 1.13.2/5; 1.46; 2.18.
Malcolm. One mile and a quarter: 44; 1.21; 1.56; 2.30.1/5; 3.4.
Night Hawk. Two miles. Last mile and a quarter: 33.1/5; 1.9; 1.43; 2.17.2/5; 2.51.
Tyam Chief. One mile and a quarter. Last mile: 42.2/5; 1.18.2/5; 1.52.3/5; 2.25.
Maybe. One mile: 34; 1.11.2/5; 1.47; 2.19.2/5.
Burning Daylight. Last mile: 33; 1.13; 1.47; 2.18.4/5.
Crest and Catford (Gentle Cat). One mile and a quarter: 36.3/5; 1.14; 1.51.2/5; 2.27.2/5; 2.59.3/5.
Triumph. One mile: 33.4/5; 1.9; 1.43; 2.14.
Salamander. One mile: 36.3/5; 1.14.1/5; 1.49; 2.20.
Dun Duke. One mile and a quarter. Last mile: 34; 1.1.0.3/5; 1.46.1/5; 2.19.2/5.
Vivat. One mile: 36.1/5; 1.10.2/5; 1.44.4/5; 2.18.3/5.
Purity Dahlia. One mile and a half. Last mile and quarter: 33.2/5; 1.8.1/5; 1.44.1/5; 2.19; 2.52.1/5.

MILITARY SPORT.

General Pershing has sent a letter to the Allied Commander-in-Chief inviting men to participate in an athletic contest in May or June in order to maintain the excellent relations existing between those who have borne arms for the great common cause which had given birth to such deep sentiments of mutual admiration and respect.

PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

THE HONGKONG COMMITTEE.

The Gazette notifies that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has appointed the following gentlemen to form a Committee to consider the measures to be taken to celebrate the conclusion of Peace, and the manner in which the victory of the Allied arms shall be commemorated in the Colony of Hongkong:—The Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, Kt., C.M.G., (Chairman), Mr. N. J. Stabb, O.B.E., (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. S. B. G. Roca, (Hon. Secretary), His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, the Commodore, the Hon. Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Director of Public Works, the Hon. Secretary for Chinese Affairs, the Hon. Captain Superintendent of Police, Mr. A. F. Arculli, Mr. A. Beattie, Commander C. W. Beckwith, R.N., Mr. H. W. Bird, Mr. Chau Kai-ming, Mr. Chau Sui-ki, Mr. Chow Shou-sun, Mr. A. H. Compton, Mr. A. G. Coppin, Mr. A. E. Crapnell, Mr. A. David, Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Mr. T. C. Downing, Mr. R. M. Dyer, Mr. C. M. Eda, Mr. V. L. A. Fairley, Mr. F. Graham, Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Mr. G. M. Harston, the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Mr. Ho Kom-tong, Mr. Ho Kwong, the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. W. M. Humphreys, Dr. G. P. Jordan, the Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Mr. A. O. Lang, the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu-puk, Mr. Li Po-kwai, Mr. H. W. Looker, Mr. A. R. Lowe, Mr. G. C. Moron, Mr. Ng Hon-tsz, Mr. E. J. Noronha, Mr. E. Ormiston, Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Lt.-Col. W. H. Passby R.G.A., Mr. T. E. Pearce, Mr. J. A. Plummer, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K. C., Mr. J. Rekl, Mr. W. E. Roberts, Mr. C. L. Sandes, the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K. C., O. B. E., the Hon. Mr. K. Shevan, Mr. H. P. Smith, Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, Mr. Ross Thomson, Mr. S. W. Tso, Mr. J. Tatcher, Mr. N. L. Watson, Mr. H. P. White and Mr. D. Wilkinson.

BANK RETURNS.

The returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st January, 1919, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks are:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, Ltd.	\$8,839,143	\$5,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$4,761,119	17,000,000
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited	\$1,545.9	\$50,000
Total	\$14,751,781	\$22,500,000
Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at £150,000.		
† Securities with the Crown Agents \$125,000.		

TRIP TO NORTH POLE.

The Aero Club of America announced recently that an expedition to the North Pole will probably be made next June by aeroplane. It is proposed that the expedition be headed by Rear Admiral Peary, the discoverer of the North Pole in 1909, and Captain Bartlett.

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cross and depressed, with a coated tongue, a mean feeling in the head, a sense of feverishness or inefficiency, its time you took

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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1919.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE CO., LTD.A LIVELY SHAREHOLDERS'
MEETING.Mr. J. M. Alves Provokes
a Warm Discussion.

The ordinary annual general meeting of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Ltd., was held at the Hongkong Hotel this morning. Mr. D. E. Clark presided and were there present: Messrs. J. Scott Harrison, A. O. Lang, W. L. Patten, and A. Forbes (Directors), G. Hopp (Secretary), H. W. Locket (Auditor to the Company), Messrs. E. J. Chapman, J. R. Capell, E. W. H. James, C. B. Brown, J. Spittles, J. Hennessy Seth, H. W. B. Kennett, T. Leeman, H. Percy Smith, F. W. Stapleton, H. M. H. Nemazee, C. Gorken, L. D'Almeida, A. C. Boelho, A. A. Almeida, J. M. Wong, A. E. Crapnell, W. C. Lee, J. Arnold, L. Guy, D. E. Wilson, P. O. Roza, M. Fernandez, A. A. Alves, D. K. Moss, A. W. Smith, J. M. Brito, C. B. Bayers, W. Morley, C. Klinek, E. M. Raymond, Leung Yan-po, W. Forsyth, H. Hancock, R. F. Mattingly, W. E. L. Shenton, H. W. Bird, F. Maitland, G. M. Lakin, M. S. Northcote, A. Shelton Hooper, A. A. da Rocha, A. P. Samy, J. M. da Rocha, A. Barretto, J. A. Tarrant, J. A. V. Ribeiro, W. M. Humphreys, C. P. F. James, A. D. Humphreys, E. J. Grist, P. M. N. da Silva, J. M. de C. Basto, E. J. Noronha, C. H. Basto, F. Soares, A. E. Griffin, J. Walker, M. Manuk, J. M. Alves, A. M. S. Rosario, M. Marques, J. M. A. d'Remelios, P. Young, Pow Hing, W. J. Wilkinson, M. Young, H. C. Kong, P. A. Basto, W. F. Ford, (jr.), E. Abraham, H. K. Hung, J. A. Basto, and A. M. d'Eca.

The Chairman called upon the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting, which was done.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, I propose to your permission to take the report and statement of accounts and auditors' report, which have been in your hands for some days, as read. You will notice a slight alteration in the way the accounts are made up the Directors' and General Managers' remuneration being included in the Profit and Loss Account for the year instead of being deducted, as in former years, after the profit for the year was shown. The auditors considered that this was the more correct way of presenting the accounts and it does not in any way affect the result. Your Directors are pleased to come before you with such a good account—the best since 1901, the profit for the year available for appropriation being \$167,749.97 against \$88,739.65 for 1917. Next Account shows an increase of \$10,272.05 and as it is this account to which we look chiefly to pay dividends, I think this increase may be regarded as satisfactory. Profit on sales of property amounts to \$87,098.69. This source of profit, however, is necessarily uncertain. Repairs are again slightly heavier the extra cost of material partly accounting for this. We have also taken advantage of a good year, to do more work than we perhaps otherwise should have done. The donation of \$2,000 War Charities I feel sure will meet with your

approval. Insurance Reserve Fund is increased by \$1,100.00 which represents premium on fire risks underwritten by ourselves. Mortgages by the Company have increased, but the amount under the heading Sundry Creditors has decreased. The explanation of this is that money which was previously on deposit, repayable at call, has been withdrawn and placed against mortgage. Among the assets you will notice mortgages and loans have increased. The reason for this is that a property we sold during the year was mortgaged, the purchaser acquiring the equity of redemption so that although the amount of the mortgage on the property still appears as a liability, on the other side we have a like account appearing among the assets as debit against the purchaser. I trust you will approve of the transfer to Typhoon and Floods Insurance Account as also the transfer of \$50,000.00 to Equalisation of Dividend Fund. Your Directors decided in view of the fact that on rents alone we could have only paid 5 per cent. dividend, to increase the dividend against the previous year by 1 per cent. only, in which connection they are bearing in mind the fact that they have still considerable amount of property to develop. With these few remarks, gentlemen, I beg to propose that the Directors' report and statement of Accounts as presented be adopted. After this has been seconded I shall be pleased to answer, to the best of my ability, questions shareholders may wish to ask.

Mr. E. M. Raymond:—I beg to second.

The Chairman:—I will now reply to the questions put by Mr. Alves.

Mr. Alves:—May I address the meeting, because I have put the questions and not you, Sir?

The Chairman:—We have the questions before us fully and when I have read the answers you will be able to reply.

Mr. J. Hennessy Seth:—(Addressing Mr. Alves)—You are not going to read the questions out and waste our time?

Mr. Alves:—I do not care much about time. I should like to address the meeting first, before the questions are put, to explain why I have asked them.

The Chairman:—You can address the meeting after.

Mr. H. Percy Smith. I think the report and accounts should be seconded before anything is said.

The Chairman, addressing Mr. Alves, said:—My ruling is that I read your questions and the answers and after that you can make any explanation you like.

Mr. Alves:—I leave that judgment to the other shareholders.

MR. ALVES' QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

The Chairman then read the questions and answers as follow:—

ON THE BALANCE SHEET.

1. Will the Directors be good enough to state clearly and separately:—

(a) The amount of the book values of such properties as are fully developed?

(b) The book values of such properties as are not developed or only partly developed?

Answer.—The Directors do not consider it desirable in the interests of the Company that the particulars asked for should be given.

2. Does the amount of \$180,702.55 for rent include any rent on undeveloped properties? If so, please state how much.

Answer.—Yes, \$6,500 net.

3. Has a proper valuation of the Company's properties ever been made? If so, please state when and by whom and what was the valuation given for?

(a) The Company's developed properties.

(b) The Company's undeveloped properties.

Answer.—No general valuation has been made that I am aware of.

4. Will the Directors adopt the practice of having a valuation of the Company's properties made at least once in every two years and cause such valuation figures to be printed as a footnote on every annual balance sheet for the information of shareholders?

Answer.—The Directors will give this question their consideration.

5. In view of the fact that the Company has held for a good number of years land in Kowloon, which should have been built upon long ago, will the Directors explain the reasons which prompted them to neglect development of such land and also their reason for locking up funds of the Company by the acquisition of a site at Bowen Road overlooking the N. Y. K. quarters, which site it is understood was subsequently found most expensive for building?

Answer.—The property referred to which is above May Road was considered to be a good site to acquire and as an opportunity arose of doing so at a reasonable price it was thought advantageous should be taken of it. The Company's architects have been instructed to prepare sketch plans of the buildings to be erected upon such property but such plans have not yet been received, nor have the Directors any data upon which to form an opinion as to the expense of building thereon.

The Directors would point out that it forms a natural part of the activities of the Company to acquire undeveloped land with a view to the same ultimately becoming profitable either by sale or development.

Until either of these events takes place the property is necessarily unremunerative. It is only recently that Kowloon has reached a stage when the question of developing the undeveloped land of the Company further than has been the case at present has arisen for consideration owing to the demand for houses there which has recently sprung up. The Directors are giving the question of the development of the undeveloped land at Kowloon their attention. The Directors do not consider they should carry on the business of the Company upon the method usually adopted by the speculative builder or that they should develop a property until they can see reasonable prospects of letting the houses after they are built.

6. For reason given in question No. 5 will the Directors explain to the meeting their justification in acquiring a piece of land in May Road on which it is believed they propose to erect a building instead of employing the funds proposed to be spent in a paying proposition by building up good rent-paying terraces on that valuable piece of the Company's ground between Carnarvon and Mody Roads, now used as tennis courts?

Answer.—The answer to this question is practically similar to the answer to question 5.

Amongst other property of the Company the development of which will come under consideration is the piece of ground between Carnarvon and Mody Roads in Kowloon. The Directors would point out that only about two years ago the Company had over 40 houses in Kowloon.

7. Will the Directors give the shareholders some information as to the cost of K. M. L. 48? In view of the appreciation of land values at Mongkok, have the Directors thought of any scheme so as to make the best of this bad bargain which undoubtedly is responsible for a good portion of the \$905,000 due under Mortgage Account, the interest on which has absorbed a good slice of our annual revenue?

Answer.—This property was purchased many years ago. Part of it was subsequently developed. The demand which has arisen for Kowloon property has naturally turned the attention of the Directors to the balance with a view to seeing whether it can be remuneratively dealt with in any way. Present prospects suggest a promise of this. The \$905,000 due on mortgage which is referred to principally represents moneys borrowed within recent years in connection with other properties acquired by the Company and has nothing whatever to do with the lot in question.

8.—Considering that the rate of insurance premium on properties in Kowloon is now reasonably low, would it not appear most businesslike on the part of the Directors to abandon the policy of the Company carrying a part of its own insurance and thereby releasing the investment in Mortgages and Loans of \$299,308.11 (which is apparently necessary at present in order to lay available the Insurance Reserve funds), thus obtaining the necessary funds with which to carry on the development of our undeveloped properties?

The Directors' attention is invited to the rate of interest earned on the investment in Mortgage and Loans—a bare 4.30% p.a. as per the figures in the P. & L. A/C \$12,805.15 and further that the premium now saved does not exceed \$1,109.90 which the Company can well afford to pay.

Answer.—Prior to the receipt of this question the Directors had had the subject of the Insurance Reserve Fund under consideration and it is still under consideration but I should point out that it by no means follows that it will release the investments and loans amounting to \$299,308.11 which are referred to and I would point out further that \$150,000 out of that sum represents the Company's liability under the Mortgage to the University of property which has since been sold to yourself with a liability to pay to the Company the amount of the Mortgage attached to it. The auditors of the Company advised that it should be included in this amount on the assets side of the Balance Sheet and it is included in the liability side of the Balance Sheet under the heading of Mortgages. The average rate of interest earned on moneys of the Company, actually invested in mortgages and loans is 8% and the amount in the Balance Sheet under this heading, including as pointed out above the sum of \$150,000 for which you are personally liable. The Company neither receives nor pays any interest in that respect as the interest is paid direct by you to the University.

HOUSE & OFFICE FURNITURE.

9.—In 1917 the balance was \$1,683; on 9/2/18 the amount of \$683 was written off, hence the balance now should be \$1,000, whereas the balance sheet states this asset at \$950. Without wishing to press the point, will the Directors explain how the shrinkage has occurred?

Answer.—The explanation is that a small amount of furniture to the extent of \$50 has been sold and paid for.

Mr. Alves, interposing, said:—I am very glad to know that the Company are furniture dealers.

CASH IN HAND AND AT BANK \$6,351.32.

10.—In view of the heavy payments for interest which probably includes payment for interest on overdrafts occurring at any time, will the Directors state the amount of cash in hand and at Bank separately?

Answer.—The Directors have no objection to stating the amount of cash in hand separately. The Company have only a very small overdraft at the present time.

PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT.

11.—Interest on Mortgage and Deposits, \$66,517.64.—It appears that the Company besides raising money by mortgaging the Company's properties also invite deposits at tempting rates of interest: apparently 7½ per cent. Can the Directors explain why the amount of deposits was not stated in the balance sheet? Is it part of the Company's business to receive deposits, and how are such deposits secured? If the deposits are included in the amount of \$905,000 shown on the balance sheet will the Directors give the figures relating to Mortgages and Deposits respectively and also inform the meeting of the average rate of interest paid under each head?

Answer.—The deposits referred to are deposits made by contractors as security for the performance of their contracts and by lessees also as security. The amount of the deposits at any time is relatively small and fluctuates as the contract is carried out and the deposit becomes returnable. The Directors do not think it necessary to set out the amount of such deposits separately. The average rate of interest paid on mortgages is 6.70%.

GENERAL CHARGES.

12.—In 1914, \$3,379.77; 1915, \$3,070.66; 1916, \$3,752.07; 1917, \$3,630.27; 1918, \$3,415.62. Will the Directors explain how these amounts appear each year so regularly and so uniformly, when article No. 82 already provides for the General Managers' \$8,000 for the office expenses?

Answer.—Article 82 provides that the sum of \$8,000 is to cover office rent, salaries of Secretary and other employees. The General Charges referred to are for additional expenses in lighting and advertising and for minor charges of the Company which the Article does not provide shall be included in the \$8,000 above mentioned.

REMUNERATION TO GENERAL MANAGERS.

13.—Article No. 82 clearly states that the General Managers are entitled to 5% of the net profit of the year. Now 5% of \$157,236.97 (profit for 1918) would be \$7,861.84, whereas we see in the P. & L. A/C that they were paid \$8,044.05. Please explain this. Is it possible that Directors' fees \$5,000, and remuneration to General Managers \$8,544.05 are not included as working expenses for the purpose of calculating such remuneration?

Answer.—The remuneration of the General Managers of 5% on the net profits of the year is calculated before the deduction from such profits of the remuneration to Directors and General Managers. The total sum in respect of which it is calculated in respect of the present year is \$170,881.02.

DIVISION OF PROFITS.

14.—In 1915 when the amount of rent collected was \$129,120.33 with no profit on sales of properties, the Directors thought it fit to declare a dividend of 35 cents. Now in 1918 with rent figures at \$180,702.55 (with no possibility of rental falling off for the next two years) together with a profit of \$87,098.69 on sales of properties, the Directors

decide on a dividend of 80 cents only. Will the Directors explain their reasons?

Answer.—In view of the fact that the profit of the present year is a sum of \$87,098.69 which is the profit from the sale of properties and cannot be regularly relied upon, the Directors consider it desirable that the Company's position should be strengthened by making the appropriation referred to in the Report, more particularly since the profits have not sufficed to make any appropriation of this nature during the last three years, except to the extent of \$3,326.65.

REPAIRS.

15.—Picking up this item from the P. and L. A/C from 1914 I notice the following:—1914, about \$14,397.97; 1915, about \$16,118.24; 1916, about \$13,630.98; 1917, about \$15,268.17; 1918, about \$17,070.30. In five consecutive years \$76,492.66 have been spent irrespective of the amounts of rent received. Do the Directors not consider such expenditure excessive?

Answer.—The Directors do not consider the expenditure referred to excessive. In fact, a greater expenditure would have been justified.

16.—Is there really a necessity for an equalisation of Dividend and at present with property business so brisk and a prospect of a general reserve fund in order to carry out the obvious intention of borrowing as little as possible for the payment of the dividend?

Answer.—You will find that an Equalisation of Dividend Fund finds a place in the Balance Sheets of most Companies and the primary object of such a fund is to assist the dividend paid out of the profits made in lean years. It is usual to augment it when an increase of profits is shown. The Directors are not aware that the establishment of the fund indicates an obvious intention to borrow as little as possible for payment of the dividend and would be surprised to learn that this was the case. The fund is also available for other purposes in case of need.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

17.—Cannot the procedure of electing Directors at the ordinary annual general meeting of the Company be otherwise than the usual "old" custom whereby a paid servant of the Company would, as it were, force into the hands of any one of the shareholders present at the meeting (a member of his fancy, of course) a slip of paper with a sort of mandatory that so and so should be proposed as Director for the ensuing year, which generally leads to a permanency.

Answer.—The invariable procedure governing the election of Directors is for one or more to retire each year. There is no obligation on any shareholder to put forward any proposal which he is unwilling to make. The suggestions made in this question are, as far as far the Company is concerned and far as the experience of the directors is concerned, entirely without foundation. If the shareholders wish at any time for some new director to be appointed the opportunity is afforded them at every Annual Meeting of the Company.

18.—Could not the Company furnish with the annual report to shareholders a list containing the names of say twenty important and large shareholders besides the names of the retiring Directors from which the shareholders may choose by ballot any five persons considered by them best suited to look after the interests of the Company?

Answer.—The Directors are usually selected because of their value to the Company as members

of the directorate. It does not follow because a particular shareholder either possesses a large shareholding or may be regarded as certain quarters as important that his services as a director would be of any value to the Company. I would also point out that the greater experience a director has in the management of the affairs of the Company the greater is his value to the Company as a member of the Board. For these reasons the suggestion made does not appeal to the Board as being in the interests of the Company.

19.—Without implying anything to the present Board, would not such a plan be more conducive to the attainment of the attention to the interest of the Company generally, and also "solve the tendency towards" "stagnation" which must necessarily obtain when selections for directorships are invariably made from a limited number of Hongkong business men who apparently form an unofficial association of "directors"?

Answer.—The number of men in a comparatively small community like Hongkong who services may generally be considered of value to a Company as members of a particular Board are necessarily limited. As I have pointed out in my last answer, the shareholders have annually the opportunity of importing fresh blood into the Board.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

20.—The Article of Association of the Company, being obsolete in the light of the present law on Companies, will the Directors instruct the Company's solicitors to submit to the shareholders up-to-date articles which should contain provisions dealing with the suggestion dealt in question No. 18?

Answer.—The present Articles were adopted in 1900. The Directors will give instructions to the Company's solicitors to submit to the shareholders up-to-date Articles. In no Article that I am aware of, up-to-date or otherwise, is there to be found anything warranting the suggestion put forward in the question before the last.

FINALLY.

21.—Do the Directors agree with me that there has been more energy, clearer foresight, better management and less over-trading, the financial position of the Company would have been so improved that the market value of our shares, intrinsically worth \$12.50, would be quite a lot more than \$7.50, the present market value?

Answer.—The Directors have made no estimate of the intrinsic market value of the Company's shares nor do they know of any grounds justifying your view.

22.—Would it not be better finance to issue 6% debentures with interest payable half-yearly for the purpose of replacing the Mortgages amounting to \$905,000 which from their recurrence on the balance sheet may be now considered as a fixed liability, almost in the nature of capital, and which appears to be required as additional capital in view of the large amount invested in property?

Answer.—This is a matter of opinion. The Directors do not share the view suggested nor have they any reason to suppose it would be possible to place debentures on the market at present at 6%. Nor do they share the view that a Mortgage which appears in the Balance Sheet may be considered as a fixed liability. It is liable to be repaid at any time.

KOWLOON.

23.—Will not the Directors seriously consider the advisability of confining the Company's operations to Kowloon which, even without going outside the Company's undeveloped properties, offers unrivalled opportunities for business and the energies of the Directors?

Answer.—While the Directors naturally regard Kowloon as the

(Continued overleaf).

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LTD.

main area of the Company's operations, they have no intention of disregarding any favourable opportunity which arises elsewhere.

The Chairman then said:—I now propose that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. E. M. Raymond:—I have much pleasure in seconding.

MR. ALVES EXPLAINS HIS REASONS.

Mr. Alves said:—Gentlemen, in putting my questions to the Board of Directors, a list of which you must have seen in the papers, I must ask you to realise my position in doing so. There is no intention on my part of acquiring fame or notoriety. After Mr. E. S. Kallourie, of Shanghai, who, I understand, has given his proxy to Mr. Harston, I am the largest shareholder in this Company. So please bear in mind that by raising all these questions it is not done with any spirit of ill-feeling neither to the General Managers nor to any of the Directors personally, although I am of the opinion that Directors should have more experience in the property business and faith in the Company. Gentlemen, you will be surprised when you come to know the aggregate number of shares held by the Directors, excluding, of course, the General Managers. I understand that a very old Director has only 100 shares in his name. Why? If he had a little more faith in the Company he should have invested at least a portion of his annual share of the Directors' fees in the acquisition of a few more shares in the Company. Without faith in any enterprise we cannot expect one to have enthusiasm in the undertaking, as enthusiasm stimulates energy without which no management can be expected to be progressive. Now, Gentlemen, some of the Directors are reported to have been knocking about the town endeavouring to secure as many proxies as possible in order to debar a new candidate from Directorship in the place of one of the four who are retiring in terms of Article No. 76, thus insisting on having their own man in by all means, instead of the new man whom they cannot but recognise as more competent, so much so that they approached him with certain suggestions which he absolutely declined to consider. It is for you to say whether such Directors are sincerely looking after the interests of the shareholders or are abusing the proxies which they have succeeded in canvassing. Coming back to the first part of my remarks, gentlemen, in raising these questions I am prompted solely by a sincere wish to see that the Company will prosper, by better management. To carry this out successfully must necessitate certain reforms, which I consider necessary to safeguard my interests, which, after all, are not insignificant. This may sound to you somewhat selfish, but, shareholders, if my interests are all right, it stands to reason that I am also safeguarding the common interest of all shareholders.

The Chairman said:—The holding of shares of Directors is very often small and it is desirable that should be so. It is quite in order and quite in the ordinary way.

Mr. Alves:—Quite natural! The Chairman:—It is quite natural for Directors to seek support for their policy. It is not correct to say that the Directors approached Mr. Alves with the proposition which he stated. Has any other shareholder any remarks to make?

Mr. Alves said that he would contradict that. He was invited to meet the Directors on that point.

MR. HARSTON STATES THE FACTS.

Mr. J. Scott Harston said it was necessary for him to state the facts with regard to the insinuations made by Mr. Alves, particularly in the last-mentioned remark. In doing so he wished them to quite understand, if it appeared to them that he was committing any breach of privilege or confidence, that it was necessary because of the attitude taken up by Mr. Alves. The following were the facts:—

A few days ago, about Thursday, a gentleman named Mr. Bisney came to his office and stated that he was approaching him because of his old connection with the Company. He stated that he had formerly been on the Board and he heard that there was trouble between the Directors and Mr. Alves and he asked if it was possible to have the trouble avoided and have the matter settled. He (Mr. Harston) said he did not see what he could do, as Mr. Alves wished to get on the Board to look after his own interests as a shareholder and his candidature, which was contained in letter, was not viewed with favour by the Directors. Mr. Bisney said notwithstanding that, could not a way out of the difficulty be found? Mr. Harston said he replied that the Board, at that time, was full up. There was no room and no vacancy. Mr. Bisney then asked if a vacancy could not be found and the speaker replied that it would be possible if the Articles were altered. Mr. Bisney asked if the Directors would consent to the alteration of the Articles and it was replied that he (the speaker) could not say unless the Directors considered the matter in that respect. Mr. Bisney asked if the matter could be brought forward and he replied "Certainly, I have no objection," but he would want to know that in the event of the Board agreeing to the suggestion, if Mr. Alves would consent. He did not say they would agree and he could not promise, but he was entitled to know if that was the case. Mr. Bisney said, "I can tell you that Mr. Alves will agree; I know already." Mr. Harston replied that it would be better to see Mr. Alves and later, Mr. Bisney came back and said he had seen Mr. Alves and that the latter would be quite agreeable and Mr. Alves wanted the Directors, in the event of their agreeing to that course, to address a letter in answer to the letter he sent in support of his candidature. Mr. Harston said he could not agree to that at all, as that matter was on a different plane. When Mr. Alves said that he is a large shareholder and must look after his own interests, he approached the matter from an entirely different standpoint. Negotiations had been suggested for the consideration of the matter and he (Mr. Harston) was willing to ask the Directors but he could not advise the Directors to reply as Mr. Alves wanted. The matter was then closed and he fixed up a meeting of the Directors. When they met it was suggested by Mr. Lang and himself that they should see Mr. Alves. Mr. Alves was sent for and when he came what transpired was that he (Mr. Harston) said "Now Mr. Alves, in the course of my interview with Mr. Bisney I was careful to say that this should be treated without prejudice—as confidential and private and not to be used by one side or the other." Mr. Alves said "Certainly, I take it I shall not be prejudiced." They discussed the matter with Mr. Alves and told him that they had decided to oppose his candidature because he had put up a proposal in his own interests and he (Mr. Harston) thought that there was another matter, namely, that Mr. Alves had only started to send in his transfers on the afternoon of the day the Register closed. Mr. Alves said he was legally entitled to do so and continued that he thought they were trying to bluff him, and said he thought his candidature should be proceeded with. Mr. Harston said he refused. The interview then terminated. The speaker said that so far as he was concerned, he wished to say that he looked upon what Mr. Alves had said as an entire breach of confidence—(Applause)—and he asked them to support him (Mr. Harston) in that. He had given them the whole of the facts. He was a Director of several Companies in Hongkong but he had never endeavoured to make a cent out of his position. It was true in some Companies he was a small holder, but he had constantly endeavoured to do his best for them and he had done thousands of dollars worth of work in legal business for them without charging a cent.—(Applause).

Mr. Alves said he supposed they expected him to reply. Nobody had said that Mr. Harston had not worked conscientiously and loyally for all the Companies for which he was a Director. The only thing he had to regret was that when he was present at the meeting he did not go there with a witness, because he could not remember what Mr. Harston had suggested just now about the matter being entirely private. He remembered Mr. Harston saying that it was without prejudice, and he also said that he came there without prejudice. He did not remember any further remarks being made. As regards the interview with Mr. Bisney, he could not say what he said, but what Mr. Bisney said to him (Mr. Alves) was not all the same. He put the question by way of interrogation and not in the way of a statement, but Mr. Harston made it a statement which was not in the same light. He was sorry he could not substantiate that meeting affair because he had no ill-feeling against Mr. Harston or prejudice; on the contrary, he was afraid that Mr. Harston must have misinterpreted that interview to them.

The Chairman then put the resolution to the meeting and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. Arnold proposed and Mr. C. B. Buyers seconded the re-election of Messrs. J. Scott Harston, A. O. Lang, W. L. Paterson, and A. Forbes as Directors.

Mr. L. D'Almada:—Will you let me propose an amendment to the proposition made by Mr. Arnold? My proposition is that Messrs. J. Scott Harston, A. O. Lang, A. Forbes and Alves be elected as the Board of Directors. I am asking you to elect Mr. Alves for no other reason except that he is a big holder of property in Kowloon and he lives there. I think it is necessary that there should be some person on the Board of Directors who would keep the properties in such form as would entail a handsome profit in the future. I suggest that you allow Mr. Alves to go on the Board and support my proposition.

The Chairman:—I must ask you if you are solicitor for Mr. Alves.

Mr. D'Almada:—No, I was acting for him in properties he bought from the Company.

The Chairman:—With reference to the amendment which has been proposed I should inform shareholders that the following letter was received from Mr. Alves on the 5th instant:—

Hongkong, 5th Feb. 1919.
The Secretary, the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—Being one of the largest shareholders in the Company I think I am entitled to become one of its Directors as soon as a vacancy occurs in the Board of Directors and in the terms of Article No. 80 of Articles of Association of the Company I hereby give you the formal notice of my candidature for the office. It is but right that I should be placed in a position to watch my interests closely.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. ALVES.

The Chairman continuing:—The Directors have no personal objection to Mr. Alves nor are they aware of any special qualifications he possesses which would render his services as a Director of value to the Company. They consider it doubtful if a large shareholder who is actively engaged in developing Kowloon on his own account in competition with the Company should fittingly find a place on the Board and feel compelled to give the members the fullest opportunity of deciding this for themselves. Mr. Alves avowed objects in seeking election are to look after his own interests which do not appear to the Directors to be legitimate motives for seeking election. The present Directors are well conversant with the Company's business and interests and fully realise the importance of guarding the interests of the shareholders and the stability of the Company regarding the business it carries on as contrasted with a policy desired by a particular shareholder which may not be beneficial to the shareholders as a whole.

THE KIRKEE MEN.

ONLY TEN FOR IMMEDIATE DESPATCH.

The following information by cable has been received from India by the Military Authorities here regarding the disposal of Hongkong Military Service recruits who were drafted to India:—

"Ascertain that ten men only available for immediate despatch viz. Privates Mead, Turner, Finch, Findlay Smith, Johnson, Macdonald, Stark, Thomas, Wattie and Reid. Of remainder, nineteen are serving at Salomika and that force is being cabled to, asking if they can be released. Baker and Hughes desire demobilisation in England and Mountain in Australia. Telegraph if you agree. Noon and Brook sick in Hospital in India. Graham invalided to England."

CHINESE POSTS APPOINTMENTS.

The Canton Times announces the following changes:—

Mr. C. H. Shields who has been Commissioner of Posts for so many years in Kwangtung, has been granted home leave and leaves in April via America.

Mr. J. C. Parkin, Deputy Commissioner of Posts, Canton, has been transferred as Acting Commissioner for Shansi with Headquarters at Taiyuanfu.

Mr. F. A. Nixon, from Shansi has been appointed to succeed Mr. C. H. Shields, as Acting Commissioner for Kwangtung.

Mr. E. A. Chaudoin, District Accountant, Canton, succeeds Mr. Parkin as Acting Deputy Commissioner, Canton.

Mr. A. R. Powell, Assistant Accountant, Canton, succeeds Mr. Chaudoin as District Accountant, Canton.

DAY BY DAY.

The election of officers of the Canton Club at Shameen took place on February 12. The General Committee for the year of 1919 is as follows:—Messrs. J. Baad, G. H. Bowker, O. W. Darch, S. R. Brown, and C. A. Peel. The above and the following members constitute the Balloting Committee:—Messrs. E. A. Chaudoin, G. N. Courtney, D. Forbes, G. G. Hopeler, G. O. Kitching, and H. S. Smith.

ITALIAN COURT MARTIAL.

It is reported from Milan that a court martial is being opened in Spiza (Liguria) concerning the destruction of the dreadnought "Leonardo da Vinci" (22,000 tons), with hundreds of victims. According to the evidence of secret inquiry officers, it is alleged that a tradesman, Vincenzo Enea, was the architect conspirator and received \$12,500 from the Government of Austria, and that his accomplices included an ex-official of the Austrian Consulate in Naples, a Commissioner for Police, one of the officers of the "Leonardo da Vinci," and a fashionable adventuress named Ida Clements.

Mr. Alves said he must contradict the impression that he was securing property in Kowloon in conjunction with the Company. The suggestion appeared rather silly. Everybody knew that the real object of his securing property was to help to solve the housing problem and he was doing it, slowly, gradually and he thought successfully without competition with the Company of which he was one of the largest shareholders—(Applause).

Mr. da Rocha seconded the amendment which was put to the meeting and lost by 29 votes to 48.

The original motion was then put and carried.

Mr. D. K. Moss proposed and Mr. H. W. Kennet seconded the election of Messrs. H. Percy Smith and O. Bernard Brown as auditors at a remuneration of \$500.

This was carried.

The meeting then concluded, the Chairman announcing that the dividend warrants would be ready on Monday.

THE FUTURE OF THE CINEMA.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR SIDNEY LEE.

Sir Sidney Lee, who was present the other day at an exhibition by the Cinema Recreative Council of films of travel, romance, and industry, discussed in an interview with a representative of the Observer, the need for raising the standard of the picture palace, and of presenting films of a higher character and of some educational value. Whilst acknowledging that both in this country and in America film producers are beginning to realise their responsibility to the public, he expressed his general view that "the power for good in the cinema is inadequately utilised, and that the power for evil is imperfectly checked."

The Cinema Recreative Council, which has been a year at work, is mainly a propaganda society. It aims at uniting in a definite effort on practical lines the clergy, teachers, and social workers in order, as it says, "to harness the unbounded force of the cinema in the interests of right thinking and noble living."

With this aim Sir Sidney thoroughly sympathises, and at the same time he explained that he is not closely associated with the movement.

"The most essential thing," he said, "is to dissuade or prevent children, especially in the poorer districts, from spending all their pocket money and their leisure time at picture palaces where the programmes are almost entirely deleterious to their minds and their imagination. I think the evil is a very serious one for the rising generation; and although one would like to improve matters by voluntary effort, it looks as though it might be necessary for the education authorities to seek some legal powers to prohibit the admission of children to picture palaces of the inferior kind which abound in the poorer districts throughout the kingdom. It would seem desirable, indeed, that young people under sixteen should be excluded from picture palaces which do not take into reasonable account their educational requirements. One does not wish to restrict unduly young people's opportunities of entertainment, but the entertainment to which they have the readiest access should be of a healthy kind."

"In one place near London where a complicated story of crime and elopement filled the bill, many hundreds of children collected in a queue at half-past twelve the other Saturday, although the doors did not open till half-past two. This is a common experience in the poor districts of every large town, and should be put a stop to without delay. After all, experience has shown that good films are as popular as bad ones. Why then, should bad films which demoralise be permitted without restraint?"

"The educational film, if properly devised, could be made quite as interesting to children as the sensational stories of sordid crime and illicit love. For example, you could show them the countries of which they have heard in their geography lesson; you could show them the wonders of science and the processes of manufacture; you could teach them the movements and habits of the whole animal creation. Natural history generally could be more widely illustrated than it has been. I think it would be necessary to have good verbal comment on such films as I have mentioned, and the slow film is preferable to the rapid one, whenever an educational purpose is to be served. Good literature and history might be beneficially illustrated. Humorous fiction, too, might be filmed without vulgarity or coarseness. The Recreative Council wishes to include Scripture subjects, but, as things are, they are rarely satisfactory."

"For exclusive pictures of direct instruction, I believe it would be often useful to bring the moving picture into the schools and make it part of the educational machinery. Dull children's intelligences would be stimulated by it. Thereby, too, public taste might be ultimately improved everywhere, and films that are harmful might lose their popularity."

"One does not wish," Sir Sidney added, "needlessly to interfere with the liberties of any part of the population, but there is need of some efficient and prudent control of the picture palace in the interests of national well-being."

THE NEW PALESTINE.

AGRICULTURE THE KEY TO ITS PROSPERITY.

For the Egyptian, Egypt has been too easy a home. A level land where you may count on any date a year ahead to find a bright day, and a cool night, where libiscus grows by a leak in the fountain and cheap food is piled about your feet by contented countrymen is not a land to breed heroes, though it has too often demanded slaves. Even the religion of the land, so stern for the saint, so gallantly exacting for the warrior, sounds for the poor righteous man of the Delta mainly the anthem: "God is merciful, indulgent; be patient, endure." In fact, Egypt, spoilt child of nature has in revenge spoiled some of her own children, bestowing on them, like an ironic fairy, straight backs, broad shoulders, good lungs, and thoughtless faces.

No neighbouring countries could be more sharply contrasted than Egypt and Palestine. Palestine is neither spoilt nor mischievously handicapped by nature. There's the possibility of a good living to be made out of the soil, but it has to be made. There's a future, but only for hard work. In Palestine, Voltaire's generally misapplied sentence is markedly true. A man may have a garden there, but it is a *faux cultiver son jardin*. No river on a large scale every moment brings fertile soil in suspension. But there is the Jordan, there are excellent streams, and there are plentiful springs in well-known courses. Only these springs and rivers may easily run to waste, and a short neglect will sometime choke their sources. Isaac "had to dig again," under the difficulties we know of, the wells his father had digged. There are great reserves of water out of sight, but faith or science must discover them and labour and machinery bring them into use. There is no margin of natural wealth to indent upon by extravagance, or sloth, or ignorant experiment. For a provision must be made against the lean years no prophet is needed to foretell: against the locust that sweeps clean, the frost that kills the lambs, against storm and summer drought and winter floods.

NEEDS AND CAPACITIES. The needs and capacities of Western Palestine—the country east of Jordan presents separate problems—might link two good purposes together. On the one hand Palestine calls for development, and on the other a home is found for Israel a national centre for a race which will continue to do its share in many lands all the better for having a central home. And if there is to be a home for Israel in Palestine it must be a home upon the land. Nothing would be gained, much lost, for Israel and for us all, by the addition of numbers to the unproductive populations of Jerusalem; and city activities of sale and barter cannot give to the Jewish nation what it needs, and what its strongest members covet. Only the land, the country life, the export of production, the magic of property or of secure tenure, perhaps under some form of public ownership, can meet the moral and intellectual needs of the people.

On the other hand, if Western Palestine is to be developed without alms what race in any way connected with the country's history has the facilities and education for this development except the Jew? What other race—always looking among those related to the country—could find the necessary means? Even if the methods of "benevolence" were permissible and morally hopeful, no alms-fund could supply the capital—very considerable indeed—which the best experts believe must be soon found and quickly spent. In presence of energetic enterprise like the enterprises already successful in the Zionist colonies, poor cultivators acting alone must always be at a disadvantage. Care would be needed to prevent the expropriation, even by over-topping purchase, of the Arab cultivators and small proprietors. Large Moslem proprietors, mostly not living in the country, can take care of themselves, and so can the great religious corporations.

THE UNUSED LAND. There is plenty of unused land in the country; and if, besides, whoever controls the place hereafter throws the Crown lands open to purchase, the Jews would be able, without favour, to secure a share enough to employ their energies for two generations at least. The country is, for its small extent, well fitted for local diversities. It has the sadres for tribal divisions, and there are diversions enough of country occupations. The Jews' success hitherto has been greatest in fruit-growing. They will, no doubt, in time excel also in the wheat-growing which they have not neglected. But the Arabs may still hold their place as cattle-raisers and herdsmen; so that, without interference with economic forces, their gracious and simple life may not be lost to Western Palestine. For a long time there should be room enough for the increase and greater prosperity of all the races now in Palestine.

The country, if we may be taught by the experts, is quite capable of supporting a good population in health, but it is a land which must be incessantly watched, worked, and even fought with. Failure and feebleness can produce here, as anywhere else, a feeble race, small in numbers, ill-nourished, ill-taught, and ill-equipped for fresh failures. But no race can hold on here for long in prosperity without becoming strong and brave and cunning. The rewards of well-guided industry are certainly startling. Men who have not been up this way for twenty years are amazed by the orange groves of Detran, the lines of cultivation on the hills, the seas of maize of a strange milky green, like the green of jade or like the Dead Sea on a fine day. But all this plenty and beauty comes from thought and knowledge married to the soil and from a bold expenditure of capital in the original winning of water and in the supply of trees. Only a fair and strong social order, with steady education, can secure the spreading of such work from the few small centres over the land. Not only have the plains to be cultivated, but the foothills and the hills themselves have to be rewooded, and a soil rebuilt in certain parts of what is now a long range of barren rocks.

Has anything been done in the short time of the military occupation to promote without delay a work of rehabilitation and to trace the line of future progress? The answer, on the face of things, is favourable. In the circumstances, and with the means available during the progress of a difficult campaign, the success achieved is very considerable, and ought even now to be in some slight degree known.—Rev. Father Waggett in the *Manchester Guardian*.

THE STARS AND STRIPES.

What may cause considerable surprise is the knowledge, on the authority of a very well known English newspaper, that the American flag is of Dutch origin. The Stars and Stripes were borrowed from the flag of the Dutch Republic. This flag had seven stripes and stars, standing for seven Dutch States united in one congress of States. The United States made its flag thirteen stripes and stars, indicative of the thirteen original States. It was intended to add a stripe and a star for each new State, but a century ago Congress ordered that the fifteen stripes to which the flag had grown be reduced to thirteen, and that only a star for each new State should be added. Another version of the origin of the Stars and Stripes is that they were a portion of the family coat of Washington's ancestors, who were of Northamptonshire, and of the mingled Norse and Angle blood of York-shire, and it was supported by a memorial tablet on the walls of a parish church attended by the Washington family. Perhaps some "Old Glory" man would be able to give authentic information with regard to the origin of the flag.

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 "SUMATRA MARU" Saturday, 15th February.
 BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE, PORTSWORTH, PENANG AND COLOMBO.
 "BURMA MARU" Thursday, 27th February.
 BATAVIA, SOERABAYA, SAMARANG—Monthly direct service.
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 VICTORIA & AOMIA VIA MANILA, KEFLU G. SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, M. JI. KOBE, YOKOHAMA, YOKOHAMA.
 "AFRICA MARU" Tuesday, 25th February, at 3 p.m.
 HAIPHONG—Three times a month service.
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 "SOSHU MARU" Thursday, 27th February, at 9 a.m.
 KEELUNG VIA SWATOW AND AMOY.
 "AMAKUSA MARU" Monday, 17th February, at 10 a.m.
 "KAJO MARU" Sunday, 23rd February, at 10 a.m.
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 Manager

Tel. No. 744 and 745

No. 1, Queen's Building.

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CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE ADMIRAL LINE.

THE Steamship

"ADMIRAL WAINWRIGHT" having arrived from Seattle, via ports on February 14th 1919, consignees are hereby notified that their cargo is being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at consignees' risk.

Consignees of cargo must produce an Import permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading will be countersigned.

All broken, chafed and damaged cargo is to be left in the Godowns where it will be examined at 10 a.m. on February 14th, 1919 by the Company's Surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas.

All claims must be presented within thirty days of the steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized. No claims will be recognized after the goods have left the Godowns, and cargo unclaimed on and after February 17th, 1919, will be subject to rent.

No fire insurance whatever will be effected.

Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately. PACIFIC STEAMSHIP CO., No. 12 Ice House Street, Hongkong, February 9, 1919.

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

s.s. "BENDORAN"

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th inst. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 23rd inst. or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 15th inst., at 11 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1919.

TIDE TABLE.

From 9th Feb. to 15th Feb.

Day	Time	High Water	Low Water	Time	High Water	Low Water
9th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
10th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
11th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
12th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
13th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
14th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0
15th	9.00	1.0	1.0	10.00	1.0	1.0

m morning, a afternoon.

NOTICE.

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SOLE PROPRIETORS OF
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HEAD OFFICE, TOKYO.

BRANCHES AND REPRESENTATIVES:—NAGASAKI, KARATSU, WAKAMATSU, MOJI, KURE, KOBE, OSAKA, TSURUGA, NAGOYA, YOKOHAMA, TOKYO, HAKODATE, MURORAN, OTARU, VLADIVOSTOK, PEKING, TIENTSIN, DAIREN, TSINANFU, HANKOW, SHANGHAI, TAPEI, HONGKONG, CANTON, HAIPHONG, MANILA, SINGAPORE, CALCUTTA, LONDON & NEW YORK.

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Codes:—A, A.B.C. 5TH ED., Western Union and Bentley's. AGENCY FOR:—THE OSAKA MARINE AND FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD., OSAKA.

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 No. 11, Pedder Street, Hongkong.

MOVEMENTS OF
STEAMERS.

The R.M.S. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA arrived at Singapore on the 9th February and is due at Hongkong on or about the 15th inst.

The R.M.S. MONTEAGLE left Vancouver for Hongkong, on the 3rd Jan. and is due here on or about the 25th February.

The P. & O. s.s. DUNERA left Shanghai for this Port on the 10th inst., with the homeward English Mail, and is due here on the 15th inst.

The China Mail S.S. Co. is in receipt of a telegram from its San Francisco Office advising that the s.s. N. Y. KING arrived at that port on Sunday, February 9, 1919.

The R.M.S. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA left Singapore for Hongkong on the 11th February, and is due at Hongkong on or about the 15th inst.

The P. & O. s.s. HEJAZ left Moji for this Port on the 12th inst., with homeward English Mail, and is due here on 18th inst. at noon.

The Pacific Mail s.s. COLOMBIA will arrive at this Port on or about February 25th 1919.

COMPENSATION FOR SUICIDE.

A novel claim for compensation was decided in Bow County Court recently. Last February a workman named Crafer, employed at Victoria Dock, injured his eye, and in a fit of depression four months later committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a train. His widow, pleading that the suicide was the direct result of the injury to the eye, sued the employers under the Workmen's Compensation Act. She was nonsuited by Judge Graham, who said he could not see any evidence of a well-marked change in the behaviour or habits of the workman. The mere fact of suicide did not raise the probable reference that the injury to the eye was a contributory cause of the suicide.

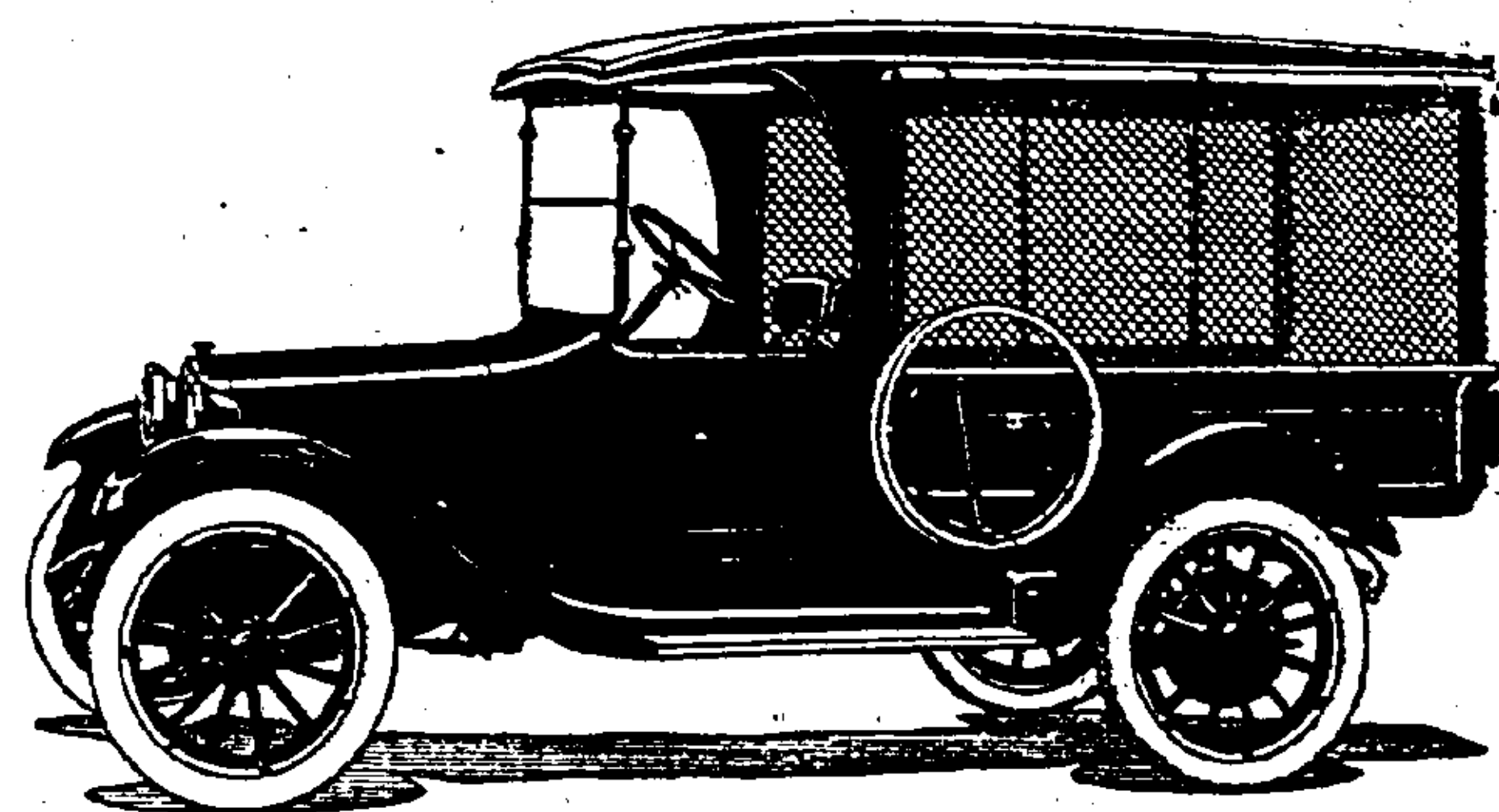
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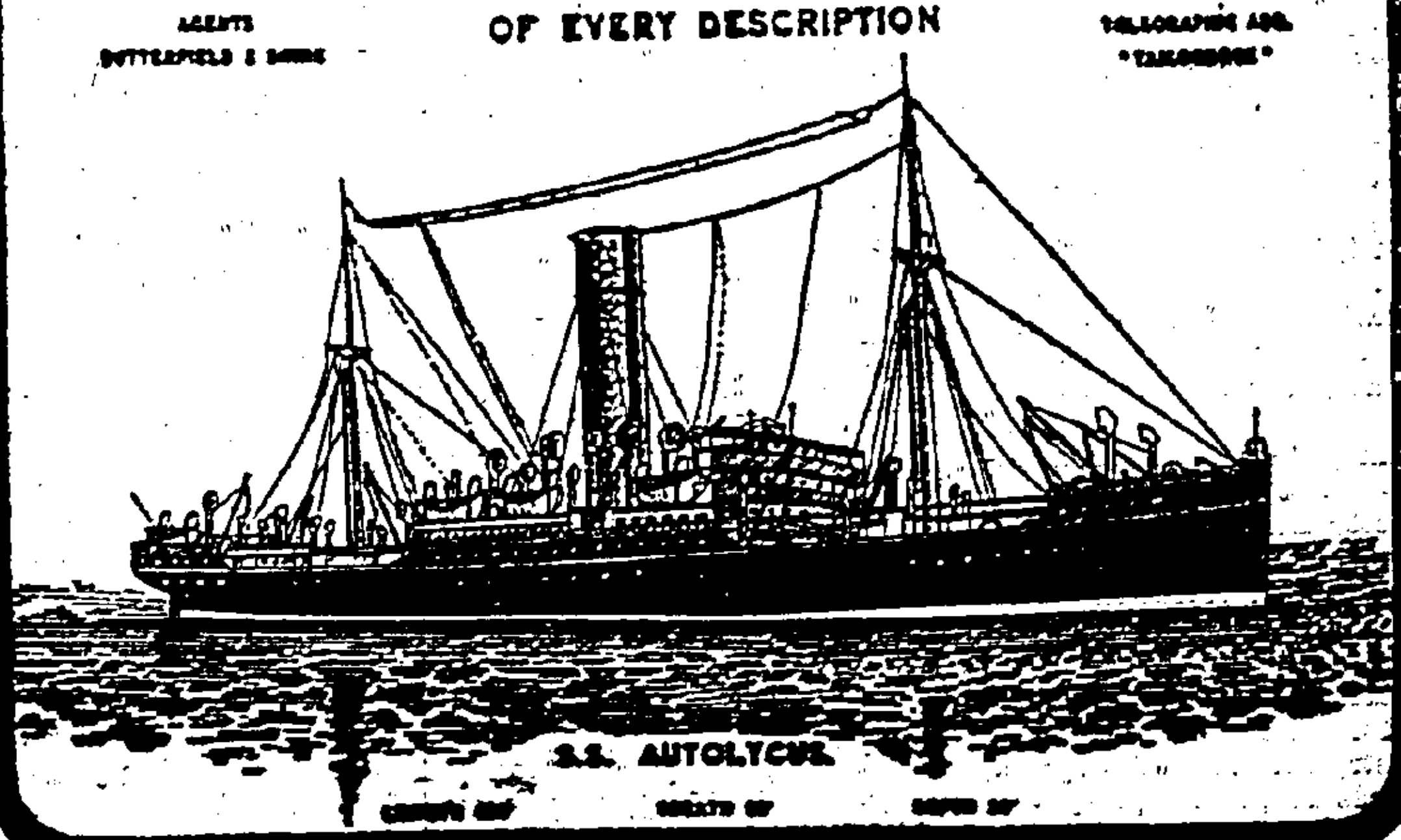
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UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS.

The Great Northern Telegraph
 Company, Ltd.

The following Unclaimed Telegrams are lying here:—

Clarke, c/o American Consul, from New York.
 Vayam, England Market Mid-
 die, from Shanghai.
 H. Hara, Hongkong Hotel, from Shanghai.
 Yoo-yokhang care Sweetee-
 hong, from Amoy.
 Tomyuhing, Fourteen Street, from Shanghai.
 Drankay, from Kobe.

Yukingwoo, Tunglee Company Central, from Shanghai.
 Tungchungwei, 1st Class Passenger, Steamer Kwangtai, from Shanghai.

Tantiongo c/o Tokiots, from Amoy.

Taituckahong, Winglock Street from Shanghai.

Kiewwo, (2), from Amoy.

Kalle, from Shanghai.

Captain Monkman S.S. Shanghai, from Shanghai.

Kawaguchi, Captain Mikuni, from Kagoshima.

Yeatsi, from Shanghai.

Gais, Hongkong Hotel, from Shanghai.

Soo Ching, Cantonwayuen, 52 Shih ngtsay, from Shanghai.

Tongcheong, from Tokio.

Tarmyook Bowah Co. Queens Road, from Shanghai.

Richard Thompson, Hongkong Hotel, from Yokohama.

T. KONG.

Act. Superintendent.

Hongkong, February 14, 1919.

Eastern Extension Australasia & China Telegraph Co.

List of Unclaimed Telegrams lying in the E. E. Telegraph Office at Hongkong.

Forsee, from Manila.

Jarbal, from San Francisco.

Karanjee, from Calcutta.

Mrs. Vande sweep, from Soerabaya.

Fpiers, from London.

J. F. O'DONN.

Superintendent.

Hongkong, 14th February, 1919.

THE POLICE RESERVE.

SERVICES RECOGNISED.

In connection with to-day's inspection of the Police Reserve by H. E. the Officer Administering the Government, below we give a list of men whose work has been recognised during the past year—

GOOD SERVICE MEDALS.

Chief Inspector C. F. Mason (on Active Service).—For work in connection with the organisation and early training of the Force.

Staff Inspector J. C. Wildin for raising large sums of money for War and Police Charities.

Staff Inspector R. G. McEwen for much voluntary extra duty with the Regulars and Reserves.

Police Reserve Accountant A. Bales for excellent services in connection with equipment and general accounts.

Staff Inspector B. W. Tape for good work in connection with Headquarters Stores and the Police Reserve Club.

Musketry Inspector F. Fisher for good work in connection with the Armoury and the Musketry and Revolver Course.

Inspector F. A. V. Ribeiro for good work in connection with charitable functions, and generally.

Inspector Un Hew Fan for good service as a Unit Commander (Previously commended by the C.P.S. for intelligent handling of a forged note case.)

Cr. Sergt. 41 Pun Yun Fong for good service as a Stores Officer, and generally.

Cr. Sergt. 545 C. M. Castro for exceptional services as Staff Equipment Officer.

Cr. Sergt. 637 P. C. Faithful for much voluntary extra work on the Wharves with the Search Supervisors Squad.

Sergeant 548 Baptista for long and good service.

Sergeant 4 George Lee for good services on the Wharves with the Search Supervisors Squad.

P.C. 137 Chan Yuk Shu for consistent good police work.

(Three times commended by the Captain Superintendent of Police for (a) saving life in the street, (b) smart arrest and (c) smart arrest.)

Ambulance P.C. 161 Leung Cheung Man for consistent good police work. (Three times commended by C.S.P. for (a) good work during a typhoon, (b) pluck in going to the aid of regular police, and (c) smart arrest.)

P.C. 204 Lam Kwai Yien for consistent good police work. (Three times commended (a) by the Police Judge for pluck in a stabbing case, (b) by the C.S.P. for a plucky arrest at great personal danger and (c) for a smart arrest.)

P.C. 763 A. Hicks for good work as Editor of the Police Reserve Gazette.

P.O. 707 E. J. Noronha for good work as Manager of the Police Reserve Gazette.

Bandsman 333 D.C. Baptista for long and good service.

P.C. 337 J. G. Olorio for long and good service.

P.C. 534 N.C. Lorenciano for long and good service.

P.C. 569 A.M. Silva for long and good service.

COMMENDED SERVICE.

Sergeant Major Roylance for plucky arrest of an armed man (Previously awarded Good Service Medal, also commended by Police Magistrate for zeal and activity).

Staff Inspector G. Watt for smart action in effecting an arrest.

Staff Inspector Taylor consistent good police work.

Inspector Butterfield by H. E. the Governor for prompt action in saving life in Harbour. Also by the C.S.P. for special services in connection with the Search Supervisors Squad. (Previously awarded Good Service Medal.)

Musketry Sergt. 722 A. Arculli for services at the Armoury and with the Musketry Department.

Sergt. 811 Samy, highly commended by Police Magistrate for intelligent action and arrest of a rogue.

Sergt. 28 Chin Ching Po for special services with the Search Supervisors Squad.

Sergt. 70 Yuen Kwok Yan for special services with the Search Supervisors Squad.

"SLANDER."

A FINE CINEMA FILM.

The Victoria Theatre management has secured another William Fox masterpiece, "Slander," which is to be screened on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and in which Mme. Bertha Kalich is featured. This will be a really magnificent film and it should not be missed on any account.

Mother love forms one of the chief themes in this master motion picture. The ability of Mme. Kalich as an emotional actress already has placed her in the halls of dramatic fame. As her character in the film story of "Slander," Mme. Kalich is ousted from her home and divorced from her husband through the injustice of that cowardly weapon the name of which is used as the play's title. She is forced to leave her two children, which parts are taken by the talented juvenile actress and actor, little Miss Jacqueline Morphange and Master Walter Ferguson. The wronged wife after a long absence returns to see her children, although the courts gave the father their custody. She is discovered by her husband, which part is acted by T. Jerome Lawler. The latter returns to discover his divorced wife with the two children, and a scene follows which is a wonderful piece of acting on the part of the great star, her opposite and the two little ones.

Mme. Kalich in this picture play does acting which critics assert is even more wonderful than her stage triumphs. She is a great advocate of the motion picture, and doubtless feels before the camera an inspiration which is as great or greater than that "stage power," which actor folk feel before the footlights. Mme. Kalich knows that her work will be seen by millions as against thousands on the stage, as she expresses it. And she shows it in her acting—a power of pantomimic expression which reaches the very peak of dramatic expressive act. The international actress who has appeared on the stages of many countries is supported in Mr. Fox's latest film by a strong company, many of whom have noteworthy stage records.

Sergt. 728 Beattie for special services with the Search Supervisors Squad.

P.C. 644 H. A. Allen for special services with the Search Supervisors Squad.

P.C. 827 Karim Deen for smart arrest of a snatcher. (Previously commended for intelligent action in Yaumati coal stealing case.)

P.C. 513 Remedios for smart arrest of a snatcher.

P.C. 522 Cruz for smart arrest of a pickpocket.

P.C. 572 Sales for smart arrest of a thief.

P.C. 764 Lopes for smart arrest of a thief, also for following up and arresting a pickpocket.

P.C. 83 Choa King Kee for special services with the Search Supervisors Squad.

P.C. 113 Hau Sau Nam for zeal in investigating a case of larceny. (Previously commended by H.E. the Governor on March 3rd, 1918, for zeal in bringing to justice the Po On murderers.)

Ambulance P.C. 144 Li Wing for smart arrest of a housebreaker and thief. Also for courageous conduct in saving the life of a would-be suicide by drowning.

Bugler 195 Lai Duen Foo for smart arrest of a snatcher.

P.C. 217 Leung Shiu Mun for pluck in a street robbery case, also for plucky arrest of one of a gang of ricksha coolies during a clan fight.

WINGARNIS

CHINESE MUSIC.

ONLY FIVE NOTES USED.

Strictly speaking, China hitherto has had no national anthem, writes Leon Lansberg in the New York Herald. It is one of the most musical of countries, melodious and harmonious compositions played or sung, figuring largely in religious rites and in social festivities. Its music is also highly characteristic. But it must also be borne in mind that China ever has been the least patriotic of countries, according to our notions of patriotism. While nominally an empire, it has been really a congress of almost innumerable small democracies. Each village has been a civic unit unto itself, owing no allegiance to the province in which it is situated save to pay the taxes demanded, and practically none to the empire as a whole. Similarly, each province has been a larger unit, giving to the empire only the formal allegiance of taxpaying. The individual Chinese has had little if any of that devotion to the Emperor and the empire which men of other nations have for their lands and rulers. In such circumstances the development of a genuine national anthem has been impossible.

Music, however has been a familiar art in China from immemorial times. There is a tradition that it was invented by the Emperor Fu-Hsi about the year 2352 B.C. There are other traditions that it was introduced into China by the first migration of aliens into that country the invaders being tribes from the region of the Caspian. This theory of an early invasion of China gives to speculation as to who were actual autochthones, if not, indeed, as to whether there ever were any such people. We hear of every land having been invaded and settled in the earliest times by people from some other land, until we wonder if any land on earth is occupied by the descendants of its first inhabitants. How about the Basques or the Aryans?

But to return of our muttons—which should, of course, be to our sheep—to wit, Chinese music. It is related that the music of the Emperor Fu-Hsi was called "Fu-lai," that of the Emperor Shen-Nung, "Fu-tse," and that of the Emperor Huang-Ti, "Hsien-chih." These names were not the titles of special compositions, but were applied to music as a whole, the last of the three meaning the "all-pervading influence," a phrase which clearly indicates the general use and vast importance which music had by that time gained in the Flowery Kingdom. Huang-Ti, who dates from 2697 B.C., is known in history as the "Yellow Emperor," and it was in his time, apparently, that Chinese music assumes its characteristic and unique form.

Following this epochal reign, succeeding Emperors composed musical pieces after the fashion set by Huang-Ti and introduced them into the great religious functions of the State. The Emperor Shun in 2255 B.C. composed a piece called "Ta Shao," which we may regard as the first really important Chinese composition, or at least the earliest of which we have authentic knowledge. This piece is said so greatly to have impressed the philosopher Confucius, six centuries later, that for three months after first hearing it he could scarcely think of anything else—in his own words, for that time he "did not know the taste of meat."

Precisely what this wonderful piece was, or, indeed, what was the prevailing character of Chinese music in those semi-legendary days, we have no certain means of knowing. Writers in later times, though still long ago,

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Hongkong, February 15, 1919.

TO-DAY'S

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Company will be held at the Company's Hotel, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, 28th February, 1919, at 12.15 p.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1918.

THE REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be closed from FRIDAY, 2nd February to FRIDAY, 28th February 1919 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors
J. H. TAGGART,
Manager.

Hongkong, 15th February, 1919.

TO ALL TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Union Insurance Society of Canton Limited intends at an early date to apply to the Legislative Council of Hongkong for a Bill for power to convert its silver capital into gold.

A copy of the proposed Bill can be inspected at the offices of the undersigned.

Dated this 14th day of February 1919.

Deacon, Looker, Deacon & Harston, Solicitors for
THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON LIMITED.

become a lost art and that nothing like it was known in their later times. That may be so, yet it is difficult to believe that no trace of ancient music remains in China to-day, or that modern Chinese music is not largely a survival of that of the days of Huang-Ti. If such is not the case, it would be interesting to know when modern Chinese music had its origin.

Chinese music has theoretically seven notes in the scale, though in fact only five are used: whether in the ritual music of the temples and State functions

NOTICES.

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or in the folk music of the people. Each of the five notes is assumed to have a special and peculiar significance. The five correspond with the five planets, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, with the five colours, black, white, red, yellow and blue, which now adorn the Chinese flag; with the five elements, wood, water, earth, metal and fire, and with the five points of the compass, north, south, east, west and centre. They are also assumed to be identified with the five relations of man and affairs, as follows:—The note "kung" corresponds with the Emperor or now with the President, the head of the State; the note "shang" with the Ministers of State; "chiao" with the people; "chi" with politics, the affairs of State; and "yu" with material objects.

The characteristic musical instrument of the Chinese is a series of bamboo tubes, the longest of which measures about nine inches, and of which the remainder diminish in length at a regular ratio, each being just two-thirds the length of the one before. This arrangement was devised by the Chinese—say, by the Emperor Huang-Ti—on the following principle:—Between heaven and earth there is perfect harmony. Now, the number three is the emblem of heaven and two of earth. If, then, two pipes or tubes be made in the proportion of three to two, they will harmonize in tone as perfectly as earth and heaven. So the base tube of the instrument was made nine inches long and the second two-thirds that length, or six inches. Of course the third had to be two-thirds the length of the second, that is, four inches; and so on. The result was that the note of the first, that of the third a fifth above the second, and so on through the whole range.

With the abolition of the old empire and the establishment of a Chinese republic there is a perceptible increase of patriotic spirit which will doubtless result in the development of natural airs and has already led to the adoption of one national anthem. This has supplanted in that capacity the piece called "The World's Delight," which was formerly called by some the national air of China. This is a composition of considerable melodic and harmonic interest, but showing decided marks of Western influence. Indeed, it can scarcely be considered characteristic Chinese music at all, save in some peculiar cadences. Another, called "Moo-Li-Wa," or the "Flower Song," is far more typically Chinese, but is scarcely to be ranked as a patriotic or national anthem.

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OPIMUM HIGH PRIESTESS SENTENCED.

SEQUEL TO MISS BILLIE CARLETON'S DEATH.

Mrs. Ada Lo Ping You, whose age is 28, was arrested as a sequel to the inquest on Miss Billie Carleton, and she was charged with illegally supplying prepared opium to the young actress between August 21 and October 14; and with being in possession of opium prepared for smoking at 16, Dover-street, Piccadilly, between these dates.

Mr. Muskett, who prosecuted, said at the previous hearing that certain events in connection with the case took place at 16, Dover-street, Piccadilly, in a flat occupied by Mr. and Mrs. de Veulle, when "disgusting orgies took place extending from Saturday night until early in the Sunday afternoon."

For the accused Mr. Barrington Matthews said she would plead not guilty to the charge of supplying opium to Miss Carleton, but would admit preparing opium for smoking.

Mr. Muskett prosecuting, said he desired to present the facts in as colourless a manner as possible, and to avoid the unnecessary introduction of any sensational or realistic matter in the statement he had to make. "The story is sufficiently squalid and deplorable, and I think you will agree with me, even if graceful in modern civilisation."

SATURDAY NIGHT PARTY.

He recalled the circumstances of Miss Carleton's death, as the result of which Inspector Curry had made investigations with a view to seeing if any person could be brought to justice.

What proceedings might be taken after the matter had been fully investigated he was not in a position to say. The prisoner was a Scot by birth, living with her husband, a Chinaman, in Limehouse-causeway. That her husband was an opium smoker was undoubted, and a number of articles used for smoking and its preparation had been found at the house. There could be no doubt, said Mr. Muskett, that the accused was a professional preparer of opium for smoking. For a fortnight up to September 22 Miss Carleton was staying with

Reginald de Veulle and his wife in their flat at 16, Dover-street. On the night of Saturday, September 14, arrangements were made for a party to assemble at this flat for the purpose of smoking opium.

The party on that particular evening included De Veulle himself and his wife. At about 9 o'clock, Mrs. Ping arrived for the special purpose only of preparing the opium for smoking. The evidence was not satisfactory in his judgment that she brought the opium, otherwise he would have insisted on that particular charge. He did not think he was justified in saying that the accused supplied opium.

THE OPIMUM CIRCLE.

"That there were opium and opium utensils at the flat when she arrived there can be no doubt at all," said Mr. Muskett.

"After dinner, the party—Miss Carleton was engaged presumably at her duties at the theatre—adjourned at about 10 o'clock to the drawing-room of the flat and provided themselves with cushions and pillows. They placed these on the floor, and sat themselves thereon in a circle. The men divested themselves of their clothing and got into night-clothing, and the women into nightdresses. In that manner they seemed to prepare themselves for the orgy. There were about five or six of them."

"Miss Carleton arrived later at the flat, and she, after disrobing, took her place in this circle of degenerates, as I should like to call them. In the centre of it the defendant officiated. She had there an opium tin and a lamp, the opium needle, and all the accessories. She prepared the opium."

There the party remained in their comatose state until about 3 o'clock on the following Sunday, September 8 or 15."

Mr. Muskett added that it must be assumed that the defendant went there for reward.

Mr. Barrington Matthews, for the defence, said Mrs. Ping had been married for the past three and a half years to a Chinaman, and one could well appreciate what her surroundings had been since her marriage. Probably she had been brought into contact with matters of which she knew absolutely nothing before her marriage, and the result was that she was

taught how to prepare opium by her husband.

In some way or other she became acquainted with some of the persons who were parties to this orgy on this particular night. She had been invited there, as she said, to supper. She was not, as Mr. Muskett had suggested, present for reward. She went there, having been invited to supper. They knowing that she was experienced in preparing opium, asked her to do it, and she foolishly and stupidly fell in with the suggestion, and committed the offence to which she had pleaded guilty.

"UNHOLY RITES."

Mr. Ping had been a smoker of opium since the age of 11 years, but the Chinese did not attach much importance to opium smoking. The accused frankly admitted that she prepared the opium for the people who Mr. Muskett had described, as degenerates, and one might call them perhaps something worse. He hoped the magistrate would consider this a minor charge, and would take into consideration the surroundings which she had had during her short married life.

Mr. Mead said: "I do not think Mr. Muskett, in describing this matter, has at all exaggerated the gravity of the offence. There is no doubt the accused took a leading part in the most disgraceful proceedings on the night in question. She really acted as high priestess at these unholy rites, and I cannot look upon it in the convenient way which Mr. Matthews suggests."

"I have entirely divested my mind of extraneous matters that have been introduced, and I am only dealing with the matters that occurred in this place. These seem to me serious and disgraceful enough. That this orgy, as it has been described, had gone on for a number of hours from 9 o'clock to 3 o'clock in the afternoon is disgraceful, although I suppose one cannot shut one's eyes to the fact that this indulgence in opium is prevalent, and I consider an example is required. The sentence will be five months, with hard labour."

MRS. PING'S HUSBAND FINED.

The Chinese husband of Mrs. Ping, Lung Ping Yuen, was charged on remand at Thames Police Court with having in his possession opium prepared for smoking and opium utensils. He had been remanded in custody.

Mr. F. Russell Davies, counsel for the defendant, said that You had been in this country for twelve years. He was 25 years old, and a consumptive. He had been a confirmed opium smoker, but had made a real effort to overcome this desire, by gradually reducing the quantity consumed daily.

The magistrate, referring to the opium found in Ping's possession, asked the officer in charge of the case, "Do you agree that it was for his own personal use?"

"Yes," was the reply.

"I have difficulty in dealing with a man who comes before me suffering from a national vice," said the magistrate. "That is to say, a vice which is almost invariably practised in his own country. Nevertheless, it is an offence to do it in this country."

"The defendant is liable to a term of six months' imprisonment, with or without hard labour and an additional fine of £100. But I have to consider all the circumstances. I have to consider the national temptation, which he ought to resist and which he failed to resist. It also has to be considered his bad health, which may be due to the excess of smoking opium, and that he has been in custody for seven days."

The defendant was then fined

£100,000 FOR TREE PLANTING.

The cessation of war has brought timber felling almost to an end in England, and some of the beautiful parts of the country-side which have suffered deeply in the urgent demand for wood are to be replanted. At the Board of Agriculture a *Daily Chronicle* representative was informed recently that the Interim Forest Authority has been granted £100,000 by the Treasury for immediate work of afforestation. This, however, is a trifle compared to the vast sum necessary if the 3,000,000 acres of woodland in the United Kingdom are to be properly cultivated, and new areas planted. The report of the Forestry Sub-Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction has been accepted by the Government, and will be put into force when the necessary legislation, involving the expenditure of at least £3,425,000, is passed.

THE SALT GABELLE.

ALLEGED SYSTEM OF "SQUEEZE."

The salt merchants of Anhui, Kiangsi, Hunan and Hupeh are greatly exercised by the issue of an order, No. 1935, described as "secret," purporting to be the work of the Salt Gabelle, or at any rate having behind it apparently the authority of that organisation says the *North China Daily News*, in a recent issue. The circumstances said to surround it by the salt merchants are claimed by them to justify the statement that a gigantic "squeeze" is being attempted first on them when, if successful, it is to be repeated on all the salt merchants of the republic. If indeed the facts of the case are as stated a secret order has been issued by someone in Peking ordering an inspection of all the salt merchants' licences in the above-mentioned provinces, charging them an enormous sum per licence as an inspection fee and saddling the merchants as a body with a sum out of all proportion to the work done as expenses incurred by the examination. Over and above this the merchants say that they have been instructed to keep the matter from the knowledge of the foreign officials of the Salt Gabelle.

The salt merchants carry on their business under licences, which they say were granted to them by Viceroy Tseng Kuo-fang many years ago. Some sort of payment was demanded at the time of issue, the amount apparently varying, but since that time there has been no charge, the holders have not been required to submit their documents for registration, inspection and to all intents and purposes the permission to deal in salt once granted became a perpetual right.

In addition to those licences issued by Tseng Kuo-fang, a smaller

number, about 100, appears to have been granted by Tuan Fang, another viceroy at Nanking, and consequently the total number of licenses involved by the application of this order, if indeed it is an instrument having authority behind it, appears to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 1,950. For Hupeh, Hunan and Kiangsi the big licence, as it is called, is issued permitting the holder to handle 500 yin of salt twice in each year, while for Anhui a small licence covering 120 yin is issued. A yin is 8 piculs.

The matter obviously could not be allowed to rest where it was and communication was established with a salt merchant who procured a copy of the secret order. This he supplemented with the startling information that at the meeting at Yangchow between the salt merchants and the delegate the latter is alleged to have explained that the charge of Tls. 400,000 was for the expenses incurred by the inspection—an average charge of Tls. 200 per licence—but if the merchants as a body would pay up that sum as a preliminary step the actual inspection fee would be reduced by half. That was to say: if the merchants would find that sum immediately those responsible for the order would forego Tls. 1,300,000 of what would be legally collectable if the order was in proper order.

If the order emanated with the full authority of the Chief Inspectors of the Salt Gabelle, there was no need that it should be described in its own text as secret, while certainly no authority would be given to any delegate to instruct the merchants that the auditing department of the Gabelle were not to be informed. Nor would the authorities be willing to forego Tls. 1,300,000 due for inspection on the payment of Tls. 400,000 for "expenses." In addition to these reasons for regarding the whole matter with profound distrust there is the fact that such an order properly issued would amount to legislation which could not be put into force without the Presidential Mandate. Looked at in any light the matter is one which would be subjected to the strictest investigation, for if such the attempt is what it is said to be by the merchants—an attempt at squeeze—success would mean an endeavour in another direction sooner or later.

SHANGHAI CHAUFFEURS.

TRAINING SCHOOL STARTED.

Up to the present time no proper school or place of instruction of any sort has existed in Shanghai where chauffeurs can be taught, and prospective chauffeurs learn, the rudiments of their business says the *North China Daily News*. The majority of chauffeurs acquire their knowledge of driving in the first place by stealth, so to speak, at the expense of the motor car owner who is ignorant of what is done to and with his car when his back is turned. The official records show that some 350, more or less, new Chinese drivers are licensed annually, which figure serves to show the extent of the abuse which must be going on.

At the beginning of last year the Automobile Club of China took the matter up in earnest and have finally devised a scheme whereby a proper school for training chauffeurs is now being established under the management of the Y.M.C.A.

Premises have been secured at No. 12 Soochow Road, where aspiring chauffeurs will be taught how to drive, knowledge of the importance of lubrication and how to go about it, upkeep of batteries, simple running adjustments, care of coachwork, etc., by a competent foreign instructor. Workshop practice is not to be taught, the aim of the school being to turn out men of a good class, properly able to carry out their normal duties.

Chauffeurs trained in this school will, on attaining proficiency, be granted certificates. There is little doubt that the benefit to both motor car owners and the traffic authorities will be considerable, and chauffeurs who are able to produce an A.C.C. and Y.M.C.A. school certificate should have a great advantage over their brethren who have learned their business under present methods.

Members of the Automobile Club of China will also be able to obtain individual tuition from the school instructor, and if arrangements permit, it is possible that other owners also may be able to benefit by the school.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE.

LABOUR LEADER SPEAKS OUT.

London, Feb. 11.

In the debate in the House of Commons on the Address, Mr. Adamson declared that the working classes declined any longer to be treated as cogs in a machine for mere profit making. The industrial situation was menacing. His party would never encourage a revolution or unofficial action, which was favoured by only a very small section of Labour who would have very little influence unless they could exploit the genuine grievances. Unfortunately there were many such grievances, such as wages, hours, unemployment and the fear that the Government were encouraging monopolies which would prevent a speedy reduction in the cost of living. He called on the Government to deal effectively and satisfactorily with these questions.

The Premier, who was loudly cheered, after paying a tribute to Mr. Asquith and welcoming the assurance of Mr. Adamson and Sir Donald MacLean, leader of the Asquithians, that they would support the Government in every honest endeavour to solve the social difficulties, said the people were entitled to expect that the country would see that they suffered no privation owing to war sacrifices, but there must be no undue competition in the matter of running up charges against the country, which must bear a very crushing burden certainly for some years.

Referring to the Peace Conference the Premier said that progress had been made beyond the most sanguine anticipations in approaching agreement upon the most delicate questions. He pointed out the extraordinary difficulties attending the labours of the Peace Conference as compared with previous Peace Conferences where differences of opinion between two belligerent countries only had to be considered. The difficulties had included the question of representation of the Dominions and India, who were represented for the first time in a conference of nations. (Cheers.) The whole energy of the delegates was devoted to effect a peace settlement at the earliest moment because until that was obtained there would always be a feeling of unrest throughout the world.

The Premier said that the recent strike disturbances which had been daily reported to him in Paris, involving the overthrow of Trade Union leaders and the repudiation of bargains, were promoting the very evils they were supposed to be intended to wipe out. These disturbances were making peace more difficult of achievement. He knew the perils and cost of dealing with the trouble but if the people were prepared to face the peril and cost with the courage and endurance they exhibited during the war, if every class was ready to make the necessary sacrifice for the security and stability of industry whereon the future of the country and happiness of the people depended, he was prepared to say with full knowledge that no section of the community, however powerful, would be allowed to hold up the whole nation. (Loud cheers.) Nevertheless the Government would devote the whole of its strength to redressing legitimate grievances.

Concluding the Premier appealed to all sections of the community to see that the victory won so largely by the heroism and tenacity of this great nation in five years of sacrifice would not be wantonly dissipated in a few weeks of frenzied strife. (Cheers.)

IRISH AND COLONIAL QUESTIONS.

London, Feb. 12.

In the House of Commons debate on the Address Mr. Devlin urged that if the Irish policy was not going to be changed the Irish should either be given self-determination or allowed to submit their case to the Peace Conference.

Mr. Lloyd George, referring to the German Colonies, said the Peace Conference quite early and clearly decided that whatever happened the German Colonies should not be returned to Germany. All the delegates agreed that in the interests of the security of the world and by her ill-treatment of the natives Germany had forfeited all right to them.

Mr. Guinness asked whether the Premier was prepared to press to the utmost for reparation from Germany also make Germany pay to the full extent of her resources.

Mr. Lloyd George replied that that was the election pledge given by the Government after careful cabinet consideration. The Government stood by every word of this pledge.

THE PREMIER'S REPLY.

London, Feb. 12.

Mr. Lloyd George, replying to the debate on the Address, emphasised that the Peace Conference was striving to get peace at the earliest. Informal discussions were now proceeding as regards Germany's western boundary and he was most sanguine that complete agreement would be achieved as regards the demands to be made against Germany. Our demands respecting eastern territorial readjustments must be delayed until the Commission going to Poland returned, as Alsace Lorraine was sufficient warning of the dangers of any mistake.

The Premier deprecated some members' slighting references to the League of Nations. The little nations were eager for a League while new nations like the Czechs, Slovaks and Yugo-Slavs, which were being created, depended upon the League for their lives. The Premier pointed out that American opinion was not divided as regards the desirability of a League of Nations. Mr. Taft was the pioneer thereon, going further than President Wilson. On the mandatory question the Premier agreed that no nation ought to be committed to war by the League without an opportunity of considering the responsibility.

The proposal to recognise the Bolsheviks or that they attend the Peace Conference was never made. Nevertheless without peace in Russia it would be useless for the Conference to dissolve claiming to have made the peace of the world. Some advocated intervention, but no sane man after seeing the figures thereby involved would approve of the enterprise. The Bolshevik military power had grown strong and both we and Germany were too occupied to attack it. The second course suggested was support against the Bolsheviks. The Allies had already furnished guns, ammunition and equipment and given moral support; but the burden of sending men would devolve upon the Anglo-French as America refused to send men, money or materials. The third course, a brutal policy, was to let the fire burn itself out. Hence, after all the suggestions were considered, the experiment of Prinkipo was being tried, which the Premier defended on the ground that parleying with brigands and even assassins was well-known on the Indian frontier as the alternative to despatching a costly expedition.

In conclusion he said that Bolshevism could not last for ever. Britain would do her utmost to restore order and good government in that distracted country.

Mr. Paine, miners' representative, moved the official Labour amendment regretting the King's speech did not mention definite proposals for securing better conditions for Labour. He declared there would be serious industrial unrest as long as land, railways and mines were not nationalised.

LORD CURZON'S SPEECH.

London, Feb. 11.

In the House of Lords in the course of the debate on the Address Lord Curzon said that cordiality and goodwill had characterised the proceedings of the Peace Conference and there did not appear to be any prospect of a breach. The Dominions for the first time had been admitted to the world conference, an admission that these countries would henceforth be regarded as separate states, a position of which they had shown themselves worthy by the part they had played in the war. The adoption of the mandatory system by the Conference was merely the recognition by the world of the principles of colonial administration that we had practised for half a century. It would raise the world and it was by its adoption that the Conference had moved more quickly than anticipated in the direction of a League of Nations.

LABOUR UNREST.

MINERS REJECT GOVERNMENT TERMS.

London, Feb. 12.

At the Conference of the Miners' Federations at Southport the Chairman, Mr. Smilie, said the Committee unanimously decided against the acceptance of the Government's terms, called last evening.

The Miners' Federation Conference subsequently ratified the Executive Committee's decision to reject the Government terms and has instructed the Executive to submit a proposal regarding the next step with the object of pressing the demands.

The Conference of Miners' Federations of Great Britain at Southport decided by a two to one majority to exclude the press, hence the discussion on the Government's terms was held in private. A communique was subsequently issued merely stating that the Federation had passed a resolution "The Government's terms are not a reply to our demands," and ratified the rejection.

STRIKE PROPOSALS.

London, Feb. 12.

The Miners' Federation Conference decided to take a strike ballot. The vote is returnable on Feb. 22. Strike notices terminate on March 19 if the ballot favours a strike.

The Executive recommended the miners to vote in favour of a strike.

BELGIUM'S CLAIMS.

Paris, Feb. 12.

M. Hymans, Belgian Foreign Minister, presented Belgium's claims before the Peace Conference Committee. Belgium desires abrogation of the treaties providing for an attitude of neutrality, demands rectification of the Dutch Belgian frontier, freedom of navigation in the Scheldt estuary from Antwerp to the sea by restitution to Belgium of the Dutch zone on the left and west of the Scheldt, also portion of Dutch Limburg along the right of the Meuse from Maastricht to Roermond; also return of the German districts of Mont Joie and Malmédy of which the population is purely Walloon and which was Belgian until 1815. M. Hymans submitted that Luxemburg should elect to join France or Belgium in order to guard against repetition of the German invasion. He did not refer to the Belgian Congo question.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

London, Feb. 12.

A communique from Paris (Feb. 12) says that the International Labour Legislation Commission has adopted an article from the British draft providing that at the proposed International Labour Conference representatives of Governments, employers and workpeople will be entitled to speak and vote independently regardless of the views expressed by other representatives of their nation. It was felt that in dealing with labour legislation employers and workers must be given the fullest opportunity of free expression. Another article carried provides that the International Labour Conference shall meet at the capital of the League of Nations unless it decides by a two-thirds majority to meet elsewhere.

THE ARMISTICE RENEWAL.

TWO OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS.

Paris, Feb. 11.

The renewal of the armistice continues to be the absorbing topic. There are two currents of opinion, one favouring sterner terms and the other deprecating the humiliation of Germany. The decision must be taken soon as the armistice conditions will be handed to the Germans on Feb. 17th. A new factor may arise in consequence of statements of the Germans that they will not sign a renewal without the sanction of the National Assembly, which will mean that power is taken out of the hands of the present German plenipotentiaries. It is expected that agreement will be reached shortly assuring quicker compliance with terms by the Germans while avoiding steps likely to hinder progress towards peace.

THE GERMAN DELEGATES.

Copenhagen, Feb. 11.

A message from Berlin states that Herr Erzberger and members of the German Armistice Commission are proceeding to Treves for the purpose of new negotiations.

GERMANY'S MERCHANT FLEET.

Paris, Feb. 11.

The Allied Commission of Inquiry into the number and condition of merchant ships has arrived at Hamburg.

WAR COUNCIL'S DECISION.

Paris, Feb. 12.

It is understood that the Allied War Council has come to the conclusion firstly that it should be made militarily impossible for Germany to recommence hostilities, secondly that it should be imposed upon Germany that the Allies are victors and that it is not a "paix blanche" that they are going to impose upon her. If Germany yields with good grace possibly the Entente will facilitate Germany's resuming normal peace work.

ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

London, Feb. 12.

A communique from Paris (Feb. 12) states that the Supreme Economic Council, which the Supreme War Council on Saturday agreed to establish, will decide immediate economic questions during the armistice period and should not be confused with the proposed Economic Commission which will advise the Peace Conference regarding treatment of economic questions affecting the peace terms.

THE ARMISTICE RENEWED.

London, Feb. 12.

A communique from Paris (Feb. 12) states that the Supreme War Council to-day decided on conditions for renewal of the armistice.

A BIG STEP FORWARD.

Paris, Feb. 12.

Complete agreement has been reached respecting the terms of the renewed armistice. The discussions of the past three days aimed at making the armistice terms an integral part of the peace terms and the agreement is regarded as a great step towards the conclusion of a general stable peace. The Allies have endeavoured to lay down naval, military and air conditions along lines to be adopted in the final peace terms. The Commanders-in-chief are meeting to-day to draft conditions based on these principles. The conditions will be presented to the Germans with a short time limit for acceptance.

The Supreme War Council passed a resolution renewing the existing armistice for a very short period subject to immediate termination if the Germans fail to execute clauses including those hitherto unfulfilled; also an additional clause requiring immediate cessation of German hostilities against Poland and undertaking not to cross a certain line. This armistice will be shortly substituted by a new armistice which a special commission is drafting. The most striking feature of this new armistice will be that it is intended to operate until peace preliminaries are signed instead of being in the nature of a provisional *modus vivendi* as heretofore. It has been considered that this step is preferable as likely to render relations between the Allies and Germany less precarious. The new decision consequently necessitates the Allies demanding more stringent conditions proportionate to the lengthened period covered by the armistice. The Allies have applied President Wilson's principle, rendering it impossible for Germany to re-start the war and, taking into consideration France's strong desire to be protected against surprise, the conditions will include demobilisation and disarmament of Germany under the Allies control.

JAPAN'S THREAT TO CHINA.

London, Feb. 11.

The Associated Press correspondent at Washington telegraphs that according to official diplomatic information arriving at Washington Japan virtually threatened war if China makes public the secret Sino-Japanese treaties and fails to carry out the agreement to make Japan successor to Germany in property and concessions rights held by Germany at the outbreak of the European war. The correspondent adds that Japan's attitude is causing grave apprehension among the representatives of the other associated Powers. China is seeking to obtain support from the United States and Britain. It is stated that when the Chinese delegates arrived in Paris they reported that copies of the secret treaties were stolen from their baggage while passing through Japan. Consequently they were unable to make them public at the Peace Conference.

ARMY OF POLITE SOLDIERS.

ADVANCE TO THE RHINE.

Our advance to the Rhine has destroyed a long-cherished German illusion—born during the war and fed by Prussianism—about the character of the British soldier, writer Percival Phillips, the war correspondent.

Villages through which the troops passed this week discovered that "Thomas Atkins" neither plunders nor runs amok among women; they found him quiet, well-behaved, and devoid of the personal hate which wrecks itself on helpless civilians.

TOMMY'S ADAPTABILITY.

They are not only astonished of the discovery, but very relieved, and, I think, a little ashamed. Blundering attempts at apology have been forthcoming from some local officials—awkward expressions of regret at having misjudged the character of the troops. They may be partly due to desire to conciliate, but undoubtedly there is real satisfaction at finding the English private soldier is so different from the picture held up to the population of the Rhineland during the past four years.

Soldiers have settled down in German billets in the most amazing way. I see them sitting beside the road surrounded by grave little children or walking through village streets saluted by all the men without evoking the hostility one might have expected.

Doubtless there is bitterness in the hearts of many inhabitants in the occupied provinces, but I do not think the average peasant encountered between the Belgian frontier and the valley of the Rhine wastes much time in private hate. Some women of the better class rather ostentatiously ignore passing soldiers, but men of all classes are openly placative, and the children are really friendly.

There is no fraternization for all that. The British troops are strictly obeying the Commander-in-Chief's order regarding their conduct in occupied territory; they are polite, but not intimate, taking no liberties and allowing none, never forgetting for a moment that the war is not yet over.

The plenitude of food in some places puzzles us after hearing so many stories of famine in Germany and among the German troops in the field. I went into the biggest tea shop in Duren this afternoon and found it well filled—mostly women with their children and young girls on the way home from school, eating currant and apple tarts and drinking large cups of rich chocolate.

THE GREAT LACK OF FOOD.

It was just such a scene as could have been witnessed in the cafes in any German town before the war; yet the burghomaster of Duren says the poor are in dire straits from lack of food, and is very anxious to learn what measures for relief will be taken by the army of occupation.

Our troops have had some hard marches this week. The roads to the Rhine from Montjoie and Malmédy crawl up steep mountains and slide dizzily into deep valleys; they are cursed by lorry drivers no less than by the foot sloggers, panting through the churned-up mud. Magnificent scenery surrounds them, but a panorama of fir forests and lofty hills, hardly compensates for a long day's weary march.

VICTORIA

MONDAY,
TUESDAY &
WEDNESDAYVICTORIA THEATRE
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PRESENTS
BERTHA KALICH
IN
"SLANDER"MONDAY,
TUESDAY &
WEDNESDAY

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REINFORCED CONCRETE WORKS:
Road and Railway Bridges, Bunds, Wharves, Weirs, Retaining Walls, Dams, Industrial Buildings, Towers, Tanks, Godowns, Frameworks, Culverts, Vaults, Floors, Roofs, Piles (hollow and full), all lengths and sizes, Sides and Foundation platforms, Chimneys, Poles for supporting Telegraph and Telephone lines and carrying Electric Light and Power.

COMMISSION, IMPORT & EXPORT:
Industrial materials for railways, factories, mines, iron, steel, pipes, angle bars, steel joists, iron sheets, motors and Ficht's fire-proof safes.

**REINFORCED CONCRETE IS ABSOLUTELY
FIRE PROOF AND OFFERS SUBSTANTIAL
RESISTANCE TO EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.**

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT WORK ALREADY EXECUTED.

1910.—Barracks in Thudamot for the French Government, Indo-China.	1913-14.—Banque de l'Indo-Chine, Singapore.
1911.—Wharves at Fulo-Bukom, Singapore, for the Standard Oil Co.	1914.—Chartered Bank of I. A. & C. Singapore.
1912.—Central Market, Saigon, super-ficial area 330' x 330'.	1914.—Cooling Wharf at Hongay with Crane Railway, 3 tons.
1912.—Bridge with swing span at Soaring Cambodge, length, 173'.	1915.—Wharf for French Government Mail steamers in 30 ft. water, Bangkok.
1913.—Water tower on pillars 30 ft. high (25,000 gals.) Saigon Railway.	1916.—Bridge of 740 ft. length, in 20' water; span 90 ft., Comay, Indo-China.
1914.—Bridge of 350 ft. in length in 36' water; span 90 ft. at Rachgia, Indo-China.	1917.—Railway ferry boat of reinforced concrete at Johore.

SOME OF THE IMPORTANT WORK IN HAND.

Steamer of 2,500 tons in R. C. at Saigon.	New Godown at Kowloon, Hongkong.
Banque Industrielle de Chine, Haiphong.	Grand Hotel, Peking.
	Several steamers 2,000 tons, Tientsin.

MARINE CONSTRUCTION:
Lighters (river and sea) up to 1,000 tons. Hulks, Ferry Boats, in steel, wood and reinforced concrete. Sea going ships in reinforced concrete and wood. Steamers and Sailing vessels up to any tonnage.

IRON WORK:
Frame work, machine tools, boilers, and industrial installations.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WORKS:
Private and Public Buildings, Factories, Godowns, Tunnels, Foundations in bad ground, by compressed air, Walls, Drains, Sewers, Churches, Hotels and Hospitals.

M. M. Brossard, Mopin and Co., shall be pleased to examine, free of charge, all technical and industrial questions and are prepared to supply specifications and plans on every kind of metallic or reinforced concrete construction which may be required. Address as above or to their agents, Wm. C. JACK & Co., Ltd., 14 Des Voeux Road, Central.

Reinforced Concrete SPECIALISTS.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

RECAPTURED TRADE.

A romance of trade was unfolded recently when Mr. F. G. Kellaway, Parliamentary Secretary of Munitions, showed how British manufacturers during the war have overtaken the Germans in the production of articles in which our rivals once held a monopoly. Included among his examples were—Electrical Supremacy—Before 1914 Germany was predominant, owing to her control of Indian mica supplies. Indian mica can now be exported to London only, and the British electrical industry is the first in the world. Capture of the Tungsten Trade—Germany's superiority in the earlier stages of the war in the production of munitions was due to her capture of the tungsten industry, but we are now able, if necessary, to convert the world output of ore into tungsten metal. Spelter Production—The stream of zinc concentrates has been diverted from Australia to this country, and we shall shortly produce 140,000 tons of spelter yearly, as against 32,000 before the war. Supplies of Potash—We are now on the road to become entirely independent of outside supplies. Bigger Machine Tool Output—Britain's output of machine tools showed an increase of 66 per cent, in 1917 over pre-war production. The British magneto position has been made unassailable. Our monthly output has risen from 100 to 18,000. Scientific and Optical Glass—The output of these materials in Great Britain has increased twentyfold during the war, and we are now self-supporting. Our output of glass for miners' safety lamps is sufficient now to meet requirements, although when the war opened our dependence on foreign (chiefly Austrian and German) makers nearly landed us in disaster.

WHO HAS THE MOST VESSELS?
"Which" steamship company has lost the most vessels through the submarine? One has, of course, a good general idea as to which company has suffered the most losses, but nobody except probably underwriters can say with any degree of certainty. So far as Liverpool is concerned, Cunard Company has lost about 13 vessels (other, of course, than through marine losses), while Messrs. Elder Dempster, the Anchor Line, and Messrs. T. and J. Harrison each have suffered rather badly, which, along with the sinking of other liners, gives strength to the belief that the Boche set out to sink liner tonnage.

NOTICE.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong on Saturday the 22nd day of February, 1919, at noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a statement of Accounts for the year ending the 31st December 1918. The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Monday, the 10th, February, to Saturday, the 22nd February, 1919, (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.

1/1 Shanghai	3/1 1/4
1/15/16 Demand	3/1 1/4
30 d/s	3/2 1/4
60 d/s	3/2 3/4
4 m/s	3/2 5/4
1/1 San Francisco	Nom.
1/1 Japan	133 1/4
1/1 India	145
1/1 Demand, India	Nom.
1/1 San Francisco	74 1/4
1/1 Java	180 1/4
1/1 Marks	Nom.
1/1 France	408 1/4
1/1 Demand, Paris	403

BUYING.

1 m/s. L/C	3/3 1/4
1 m/s. D/P	3/3 1/4
6 m/s. L/C	3/3 1/4
10 d/s. Sydney and Melbourne	3/3 1/4
10 d/s. San Francisco	76 1/4
1 m/s. Manila	Nom.
1 m/s. France	426
1 m/s. France	431
1 Demand Germany	75
1 Demand, New York	Nom.
1 Demand, Bombay	Nom.
1 Demand, Calcutta	Nom.
1 Demand, Manila	152
1 Demand, Singapore	133 1/4
1 Demand, Haiphong	Nom.
1 Demand, Saigon	Nom.
1 Demand, Bangkok	49 1/4
1 Demand, Cebu	625 Nom.
1 Demand, Batavia	4420
1 Demand, Hongkong	425 1/4

SUBSIDIARY COUNTS.

DISCOUNT PER 1000.	
Hongkong 50 cts sub.	per.
" 10 "	"
" 5 "	"
Canton "	2 1/4 dis.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.

TIME TABLE.	WEEK DAYS.	Every 15 min.
7.00 a.m.	8.00 a.m.	15 min.
8.00 a.m.	9.00 a.m.	15 min.
9.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	15 min.
10.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	15 min.
11.00 a.m.	12.00 noon	15 min.
12.00 noon	1.00 p.m.	15 min.
1.00 p.m.	2.00 p.m.	15 min.
2.00 p.m.	3.00 p.m.	15 min.
3.00 p.m.	4.00 p.m.	15 min.
4.00 p.m.	5.00 p.m.	15 min.
5.00 p.m.	6.00 p.m.	15 min.
6.00 p.m.	7.00 p.m.	15 min.
7.00 p.m.	8.00 p.m.	15 min.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA TRADING ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

Hongkong, 15th January 1919.

PREVENT DISEASE

"INSECTOX"

IMPROVED "REPELLENT" FLY SPRAY.

SUPPRESSES FLIES, MOSQUITOES & OTHER INSECT DISEASE CARRIERS.

"INSECTOX OUTFITS" consisting of atomizer and tin of "Household Insectox."

Price \$4.00.

"HOUSEHOLD INSECTOX"

Bottle, for use in homes, hospitals, hotels, etc.

Price \$1.30 per tin.

"CRUDE INSECTOX"

Bottle, extra strong, for use in camps, stables, factories, etc.

Price \$1.30 per tin.

"HORTICULTURAL INSECTOX"

Bottle, for spraying plants and flowers, etc.

Price 70c per tin.

On sale at Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Hongkong & Kowloon, Baskin & Co., Hongkong, and leading stores.

FRANK SMITH & CO., Sole Agents.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Under-mentioned has received instructions from Mr. J. J. Bryan to sell by Public Auction on

TUESDAY, the 18th February 1919

commencing at 11 a.m.

at No. 4 Queen's Central, first floor.

(entrance in Duddell Street)

(Removed from Stoneyhurst.)

The Whole of his Valuable Household Furniture.

Chesterfield sofa and arm-chairs, easy chairs, tea and occasional tables, teak chiffoniers, bookcase, barstead extension dining table & chairs, glass & crockery ware, vases, ornaments, etc. etc.

Teak twin bedsteads, single & double wardrobes with mirrors, toilet tables, washstands, etc. etc.

Blackwood joss table, juddiniers, stands & stools.

Also

1 Enamelled bath & geyser

1 Iron safe by Phillips

Sundry pots of Maiden hair & apparatus for s and Sumatra palms.

And

Several water colour paintings by Sourhey & coloured prints by Aldin.

On view from Monday, the 17th inst.

Catalogue will be issued.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Under-mentioned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 20th Feb. 1919,

commencing at 12 o'clock (noon) at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

1 Remington No. 10 Typewriter

1 Remington No. 7 Typewriter

1 Underwood Typewriter

1 National Typewriter

1 Smith Standard Model No. 12 Typewriter

(All in fine condition)

On view from Tuesday, the 18th inst.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

NOTICE.

HON KONG HOTEL CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above Company will be held at the registered office of the Company, Pedder Street, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong on FRIDAY, the 22nd day of FEBRUARY, 1919, at noon, when the subjoined resolution which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the EIGHTH day of FEBRUARY, 1919, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution.

"That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following, viz—

"In Article 82 the word 'five' shall be substituted for the word 'four'."

The effect of this resolution will be to increase the maximum number of Directors from four to five.

Dated the Fourteenth day of February, 1919.

By Order of the Board,

J. H. TAGGART, Secretary & Manager.

G. R.

The Pass Office will be removed from the Central Police Station to the top floor POST OFFICE BUILDING on the 16th inst. From that date onwards permission to leave the Colony will be issued from there and not at the Central Police Station.

All persons, with the exception of those of Chinese race, desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE, 1917.

Persons of registration should be notified at the P. O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

BANKS.

BANK OF CANTON, LIMITED.

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INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS.

For 3 Months 3% per annum

For 6 Months 4% per annum.

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN, Chief Manager.

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE.

Subscribed Capital—Franks 4,500,000.

Paid up " " 2,500,000.

(1/2 of the Capital, i.e. Franks 1,250,000, is subscribed by the Government of the Chinese Republic.)

Chairman of the Board of Directors: André Berthelot.

General Manager: A. J. Parnotte.

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YUNNAN

HAIPHONG

SAIGON

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